



Call Notes for the ELISA Advisory Council

Web meeting held:

Monday, July 13, 2020

10:00 AM Eastern / 7:00 AM Pacific / 4:00 PM South Africa

The following Committee members were in attendance:

- Virginia Amann, Johnson & Johnson
- Tony Centeno, Jose Centero Center for Medical Geology (Nigeria)
- Welela Dawit
- Anthony Egeru, PhD, RUFORUM
- Dana Ferreira, Pavillon 54
- Brandon Ford, Lubrizol
- Nicolas Goldstein, Talenteum
- Pavan Koshal, Neumann Kaffee
- Kemoy Liburd-Chow, Embassy of St. Kitts and Nevis
- Scott May, ICPD
- Mmboneni Muofhe, Department of Science and Technology (SA)
- Tony Ndifor, Johnson & Johnson
- Siya Ntutela, International Council of Biotechnology Association (ICBA)
- Blessed Okole, CSIR
- Hassan Popat, Computech Limited
- Dustielyn Savage, ICPD
- Suren Singh, PhD, Durban University of Technology
- Sarah Surban, ICPD
- Elisabeth Valerio, ICPD

Welcoming remarks & introductions: **BOLD ITEMS WILL BE COVERED DURING THE CALL.**

For a more in-depth briefing or if you are unable to attend a meeting but would like a debrief, contact Sarah Surban at ssurban@icpdprograms.org or Whatsapp +1 (619) 761-0669

Scott May welcomed the council members to the ELISA Advisory Council meeting. Scott mentioned that the agenda was sent via email. Scott reminded the council members that they could locate the agenda, past meeting notes and supporting documents for the meeting on the website www.icpdprograms.org, select "Committees" from the "Select an ICPD site" drop-down menu at the top right side of the page. Scott then invited everyone on the call to introduce themselves. Scott reviewed the agenda for the meeting.

Advisory Council

- Overview of roles and responsibilities
An overview of the Advisory Council roles and responsibilities was sent to the council members prior to the meeting.
- **Council members have been provided ELISA profiles, members will receive follow-up instructions; please log on to update your profile on elisanetwork.com**
Scott explained the ELISA portal is a place where people can share information about themselves and the projects they are working on. A profile has been created for each



Advisory Council member. Sarah will send further details on how to log into the portal and update the profile, add a biography and photo etc. Scott requested that the Council Members update their profiles prior to the next meeting.

- **Send additional suggested members to Sarah Surban**
There are still opportunities for additional ELISA Advisory Council members to ensure representation from across the continent and all sectors. To nominate additional members, contact Sarah Surban at ssurban@icpdprograms.org
- **Advisory Council Announcements**
None at this time.

ELISA Portal

- **ELISA overview presentation - available online at www.elisanetwork.com;**
Elisabeth screen shared a view of the ELISA portal which is located at: www.elisanetwork.com
The ELISA portal is designed to support entrepreneurs from across the continent of Africa. She stated that ELISA will become the largest network of entrepreneurs with a focus on the continent of Africa.

ELISA is the Entrepreneurial & Leadership Initiative for Sustainability in Africa. It is a multi-sector member network of individuals, companies and organizations who take a proactive interest in Africa and value opportunities to connect, share ideas, develop partnerships and create jobs across the continent. The ultimate mission is to connect entrepreneurs with organizations, investors, industry experts and enable them to grow their ideas and businesses and then employ individuals in Africa. ELISA will impact Africa's economic transformation. Elisabeth mentioned that she was joining the call from Zimbabwe where she is building a base for ELISA, or ELISA HQ.

Elisabeth shared the concepts below:

- **DISCOVER**
Using the ELISA portal, entrepreneurs share ideas and promote the work they are doing. Profiles will also include project pages, a tool that will help entrepreneurs share content about their work.
- **CONNECT**
The ELISA portal will become a valuable tool for connecting entrepreneurs. The ELISA summit will also be a forum for making connections. There will be about 250 select attendees at the Summit providing a curated experience.
- **GROW**
Weekly learning content; weekly email summary, member news can be posted on "What's on your mind". This aspect of ELISA helps entrepreneurs grow their work and become more established. Every week a new Bootstrap Briefing is shared on the ELISA portal to continue promoting engagement among ELISA members.

Elisabeth highlighted the login area. She explained that once logged in, it is very much like LinkedIn or other social networks. She reminded the council members that Sarah would be providing them with their login credentials this week. Scott added that there will be very innovative technology that will be utilized on the portal. One of these is a shared contact database. This will be discussed more during future calls. There will also be a learning component within the system that will allow self-paced individual learning. ICPD will curate content on the portal supplemented by community collaboration where members can add their

own content. There will also be an innovative recognition system. The more a member engages in the portal, the more they will be recognized within the portal community.



Kemoy asked "How is awareness of the network and portal being communicated actively other than social media?" Elisabeth answered that ELISA is a very new program, but ICPD has made a number of connections over the years that include, companies, universities and professional societies. Those connections will be contacted to share ELISA. We are in the early planning stages of using social media as a mode of promotion as well. The ELISA network itself will also become an effective form of promotion for the initiative.

Dr. Anthony Egeru asked, "How do you plan to link up in other initiatives in Africa?" Elisabeth answered that every member of the platform will have the opportunity to share ELISA. So, each ELISA member will have a space that they can share and customize for themselves and they will be able to share portal content with other people in their own personal networks. Elisabeth asked that the advisory council help advise on how to utilize and optimize those interactions.

ELISA Summit (April 27-29, 2021, in Hwange, Zimbabwe)

- Participant recruitment - **Summit registration is now open**
<https://elisanetwork.com/registration/>; **Please recommend and introduce prospective attendees to the ICPD team**

Scott directed everyone to the ELISA Summit website. It is a limited event with capacity for 250 attendees. A third of them will be entrepreneurs (ELISA Scholars). Registration is open. Scott requested that council members take a look at the website and familiarize themselves with the Summit information.

- Entrepreneur Bootcamp - **ICPD requests assistance with outreach to entrepreneurs and presenters (keep in mind that the initiative is continent wide)**
ICPD is seeking support for 50 entrepreneurial participants for the ELISA Summit. If committee members have recommendations for entrepreneurs, they can send them to Sarah Surban. A call for applicants will also be made available online beginning August 3rd.
- Program agenda, speaker needs - **preliminary draft agenda is online; call for speakers**
There is a preliminary agenda for the ELISA Summit available online for the Advisory Council to view. Elisabeth provided an overview of the three days. The first day will be a training session for the ELISA entrepreneurs. They will receive a full day of entrepreneurial training. The second day and third day we provide a deeper look into how we can support the entrepreneurial ecosystem within Africa with plenary sessions, individual meetings, social events etc. Elisabeth pointed out there are currently no speakers listed. She asked the council members to send any suggestions for speakers to her or Sarah.
- Networking Events: Networking Lunch, Plenary sessions, Opening night reception, Summit Party, Black-tie Gala
- Speaker; Masters of Ceremonies
- Expert, advice sessions
- **Summit Sponsors - sponsorship page online - www.elisasummit.com**

Scott mentioned there is an opportunity for organizations to sponsor the ELISA Summit. Due to limited time remaining for today's meeting, this topic will be discussed at the next meeting.

Dr. Tony Ndifor asked if it is realistic to think global air travel for the ELISA Summit will be possible in light of COVID-19.



Update on other ICPD Programs

Scott shared an update on the other ICPD Programs. He reminded the Advisory Council that through the Scientist Mentoring & Diversity Program (SMDP), ICPD offers opportunities to students that are ethnically diverse and are paired up with a mentor in industry for a year. Due to COVID-19, for the first time SMDP training sessions will be going virtual.

Gallus is another ICPD program, which helps increase diversity at senior executive levels within the biotech, pharma, medical technology and consumer healthcare industries.

Tours of any of the ICPD programs are available by contacting Elisabeth, Scott or Sarah.

- 2020 SMDP Biotech virtual training session will be held September 20-21
- 2020 SMDP MedTech virtual training session will be held October 4-5
- Gallus for senior executives and rising talent engagement; online tours and briefings about ELISA and Gallus available by contacting Elisabeth Valerio

Other & Action Items

Scott reminded everyone that the next ELISA Advisory Council meeting will be Monday, August 31, 2020. Please plan on 45-minutes for this call. Visit <https://elisanetwork.com/> for more information about ELISA.

Upcoming Calls

Monday, August 31, 2020, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific
Monday, October 26, 2020, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific
Monday, December 14, 2020, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific
Monday, February 8, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific