



# Call Notes for the ELISA Advisory Council

Web meeting held:

Monday, December 14, 2020

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

## The following Committee members were in attendance:

- Eyang Ebai, GE Healthcare
- Alma Enjo, GE Healthcare
- Brandon Ford, Lubrizol (USA)
- Donielle Johnson, Bausch Health
- Scott May, ICPD
- Blessed Okole, PhD, CSIR (South Africa)
- Elisabeth Pasalk Valerio, ICPD
- Dustielyn Savage, 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 Elisabeth Valerio at [evalerio@icpdprograms.org](mailto:evalerio@icpdprograms.org)

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](http://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.

## Program Updates

- **ICPD thanks Sarah Surban for her service during her contract period and welcomes her to the ELISA Advisory Council**  
Scott thanked Sarah for the last six months of her service as she worked on setting up the framework for the development function for ELISA. She did a fabulous job. Her contract has ended but she has agreed to stay on as a member of the ELISA Advisory Council.
- **ICPD adding 3 full-time paid student interns January 4, 2021, based in Zimbabwe**  
Scott noted that there will be 3 full-time paid student interns joining ICPD, primarily to work on ELISA program. They will be based in Zimbabwe.

## ELISA Portal Updates

- DISCOVER - Gateway Membership, Insider Membership, Corporate Partner, Searchable Project Pages
- **CONNECT - New feature allows anyone to view Gateway members; Social media: connect with us on ELISA and amplifying our messaging; CONFAB meetings with weekly learning content; Individual Networking**  
Elisabeth shared that we have been busy working on enhancing the features of the ELISA portal. She reminded the members that the portal is the hub of ELISA and will be the way for individuals from around the world connect. We have been streamlining the functionality. Elisabeth shared her screen to show the council members some of the functionality of the ELISA Gateway. The way individuals join ELISA has been refined. There is now a "join" link that takes you to "Gateway". Gateway is a completely free access to the ELISA portal. Gateway does not provide access to chat options and other functions, but it provides an introductory level to the ELISA portal at no cost.  
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Also new are "Project Pages" that allow individuals to build a free micro website. The "Bootstrap Briefs", the weekly content that comes from the ELISA portal is also available to Gateway members. There is a FAQ section at the bottom of the page as well. Elisabeth shared that there have been individuals inquiring and have started to sign up for Gateway.

Elisabeth demonstrated how to do searches on the project pages. She explained that Gateway members will only be able to see other Gateway members, however they will not have access to the ELISA Insider members or corporate members. Elisabeth noted that the project pages will also be able to link to social media pages. Anyone that creates a project page will also receive a unique URL that will be public facing and is able to be seen by anyone outside of the portal. Elisabeth shared that Gateway members can add updates that will be similar to a blog post. There will also be a library of sample headers that will be available since many people do not have the graphics that are needed. Elisabeth demonstrated how individuals can "like", "follow" or become a "collaborator" on the project pages.

Elisabeth added that we have not heavily been promoting ELISA externally at this point. She invited the Advisory Council to connect with @elisainetwork on social media. We are looking to build followers and start expanding content in the new year.

- **GROW - Weekly Bulletin; member news can be posted on "What's on Your Mind"; ELISA Entrepreneurial Spotlights; Grow Spaces**

Elisabeth reiterated that we will have 3 interns helping out over the next year. One will be focused on social media and creating content. The weekly bulletin has been very consistent with the Bootstrap Briefings. We will be showcasing Entrepreneurial Spotlights. Thelma will be reaching out see who would like to be showcased as an entrepreneur that is focused on an Africa project.

Eyong asked if the project pages on the portal will mirror their own personal websites or is it an additional avenue? Elisabeth answered that they will be able to create something that mirrors their websites if they choose to, but that it is not intended to be a mirror. It is meant to provide an introduction to the work of the entrepreneur or their company. She stated that many entrepreneurs in Africa do not have websites. For individuals that have websites already, they can add content to be shared on the project pages. In the future we hope to be able to add the functions of sending updates or newsletters to their subscriber lists. Scott offered assistance to those that would like to create project pages by reaching out to Scott, Elisabeth or Dustie.

### **ELISA Summit (September 7-9, 2021, in Hwange, Zimbabwe)**

- **Summit Agenda - Summit dates have been changed to September 7-9, 2021; committee will be advising on topics and themes; call for speakers <https://elisainetwork.com/call-for-speakers/>; preliminary draft agenda is online**

Scott noted that due to the Corona Virus the dates for the 2021 ELISA Summit have been changed to September 7-9, 2021. We are working on the programmatic content for the summit. The summit committee will begin meeting in 2021.

- **Participant recruitment - One of the ELISA interns will focus on participant recruitment; Advisory council 50%, Summit registration is now open**

Elisabeth explained that one of the interns will be tasked with outreach for ELISA. They will make sure that information about the summit is going out and identifying scholars and summit attendees.



- **ELISA Scholars Training Session - Review of Scholar selection criteria; Goal is to have 50 fully funded scholars; and this can be segment specific**  
Scott reminded the committee that we aim to support 50 fully funded scholars for the ELISA summit. Elisabeth stated that we are updating the call for applicants. The ELISA scholars program will attract entrepreneurs or individuals with bright ideas or they could be individuals that have already founded startups in Africa or focused on Africa. They do not need to be based in Africa as long as they are Africa focused.

We have already received some applications but are ambitiously planning to do a tremendous amount of outreach and to support 50 scholars. They will participate in a training session on the first day and will be mentored by business experts and coaches. The current criteria is that they must be Africa focused, they can be any age, from any sector, any gender, from anywhere in the world. Applicants will be reviewed by a selection committee.

- **Summit Sponsors - sponsorship page online -[www.elisanetwork.com/sponsor/](http://www.elisanetwork.com/sponsor/); firming up 15 scholarships out of the 50 scholars; contact Scott May**  
Scott asked the Advisory Council to contact him with any companies that may be interested in sponsoring a scholar.
- **Networking Events: Networking Lunch, Plenary sessions, Opening night reception, Summit Party, Black-tie Gala**

### **Advisory Council**

- **Council members - have been provided ELISA profiles, please log on to update your profile and create your project page on elisanetwork.com**  
Scott reminded the advisory council that they all have a free membership on the ELISA portal.
- **Committees - committees will begin meeting in 2021; review suggested membership list and meeting dates; ; The committees are: 1) Development & Membership Outreach Committee 2) ELISA Portal Committee 3) ELISA Summit Committee; ICPD will send invitations to each Council Member to join a committee**  
Scott noted that the three committees will begin meeting in 2021 and Elisabeth will be sending out invitations to individual advisory council members to those committees.
- **New Members - Welcome to Marie-Ange Noue, EMD Serono, Director, US Medical Information, Operations, Neurology & Immunology, Fertility & Endocrinology US Scientific Communications**  
Scott welcomed Marie-Ange Noue of EMD Serono to the ELISA Advisory Council
- **Advisory Council Announcements**  
Elisabeth asked the advisory council for suggestions on themes for the sessions at the summit.

### **Update on other ICPD Programs**

- 2021 SMDP Biotech will be June 12-16, 2021, Boston, MA
- 2021 SMDP MedTech will be Sept 25-29, 2021, Minneapolis, MN
- 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 the Advisory Council that the next ELISA Advisory Council meeting will be Monday, February 8, 2021. Please plan on 45-minutes for this call. Visit <https://elisanetwork.com/> for more



information about ELISA. Scott thanked Dustie for already sending out the calendar requests for next years meetings. Elisabeth wished everyone a happy and safe holiday season. Elisabeth expressed her gratitude to the council members for helping launch the ELISA program.

### **Upcoming Calls**

Monday, February 8, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Monday, March 29, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Monday, May 24, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Monday, July 19, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Monday, September 13, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific

Monday, November 15, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern | 7:00 AM Pacific