Marie Curie Alumni Association
[MCAA]
Marie Curie Programmes

Wuraola Akande Ph.D
Gender Summit 5 Africa Cape Town
28th-30th April 2015
European Commission Marie Curie Actions [MCA] have been a key element of EU R&D policy across successive framework programmes

- **MCA Promotes / assists** international mobility for researchers
- Estimated **65 000 researchers** have benefitted from MCA
- Need to 'extend' benefits beyond the formal contractual MCA experience by creating an association - the **MCAA**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie (1867-1934)
Marie Skłodowska Curie

- She was a Polish and naturalized French Physicist and Chemist
- Conducted pioneering research on Radioactivity, discovered Polonium and Radium
- She was the first woman to win a Nobel Prize (along with her husband)
- The only woman to win twice
- The only person to win in multiple sciences (Physics and Chemistry)
- And was part of the Curie family legacy of three Nobel Prizes
Marie Curie Actions

Wuraola’s Ph.D
MONACO EXTRA:
Monolithic Adsorbent
Columns for
Extracorporeal Medical
Devices and Bioseparations
2008-2012

FP1 84-87
FP2 87-91
FP3 91-94
FP4 94-98
FP5 98-02
FP6 02-07
FP7 07-13

Horizon 2020
14-20

Pierre and Marie Curie
honeymoon, 1895
FP7

ITN

IEF
IOF
IIF
CIG

IAPP
IRSES

ITN (ESR-PhD Candidates)

IF (ER- Individual fellowships)

RISE (Research & Innovation Staff Exchange)

HORIZON 2020

COFUND

COFUND
FP7 IAPP (Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways)

**MONACO EXTRA:** Monolithic Adsorbent Columns for Extracorporeal Medical Devices and Bioseparations

- **Coordinator:** University of Brighton
- **Academic Partners:**
  - Lund University Sweden
  - Krems Donau University Austria
  - Brighton and Sussex NHS Trust UK
- **Industrial Partners:**
  - Protista Biotechnology AB IDEON, Lund Sweden
  - Polymerics GmbH Berlin Germany
  - Mast Carbon UK
- **Funding:** € 2.06 million
Diagrammatic expression of a cytapheresis column

Wuraola’s Ph.D Research

Cell A
Cell B
Cell C

Whole blood to be purified
Whole blood
Cryogel column specific for cell B
Purified Whole Blood
Purified Whole Blood Back to the patient

Patient
THE EU FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME
FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

HORIZON 2020
What is Horizon 2020?

The new European Union programme for research and innovation for 2014-2020

- An integrated programme coupling research to innovation
- Challenge based
- Strong focus on SMEs
- Major simplification
€ 79 billion from 2014 to 2020

HORIZON 2020 BUDGET (in current prices)

- **Industrial Leadership**: EUR 17.0 billion
- **Societal Challenges**: EUR 29.7 billion
- **Excellent Science**: EUR 24.4 billion
- **European Institute of Innovation and Technology**: EUR 2.7 billion
- **Euratom (2014-2018)**: EUR 1.6 billion
- **Other**: EUR 3.2 billion

HORIZON 2020
International cooperation

**Principle of general openness**
the programme will remain the most open funding programme in the world

**Open to the association of**
enlargement countries / EFTA / European Neighbourhood (and others associated to FP7)

Targeted actions to be implemented taking **a strategic approach to international cooperation**
Evaluation criteria

**STANDARD AWARD CRITERIA**

- EXCELLENCE
- IMPACT
- QUALITY & EFFICIENCY OF THE ACTION

- **ERC** frontier Research actions ➞ only EXCELLENCE
- Innovation actions ➞ higher weighting for "IMPACT"

Proposal evaluated by the experts “as it is”
and not as “what could be” = no need for negotiation
Three priorities

- Excellent science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges
For further information

- **Participant Portal**

- **Helpdesk**
  http://ec.europa.eu/research/enquiries

- **Expert evaluators needed!**

- **Learn more about Horizon 2020**
  http://ec.europa.eu/horizon2020
Working Groups

- Events and Networking
- Policy on Successful Researchers
- Communication
- Gender Equality for Mobile Researchers in Science
- Grants and Awards
- Information and data access
GEMS - Gender Equality for Mobile Researchers in Science - Objectives

Promote mobility among women scientists

Empower women scientists and discourage discrimination and marginalisation

Foster gender equality and scientific excellence in SET

Encourage the promotion of equality policies at national and European level

GEMS Current Activity

ebook on Role Models of women scientists in MCAA
MCAA Chapters

- Africa
- Argentina
- Austria
- Balearic Islands
- Be-Ne-Lux
- California
- Croatia
- Germany
- Israel
- Nordic Countries
- Northern Italy
- Paris & Ile-de-France
- Russia
- Sicily
- South Asia
- Spain /Portugal
- United Kingdom
MCAA Membership (~5900 members)

Gender

- 40% Female
- 60% Male

Age Group

- 19 to 24
- 25 to 35
- 36 to 50
- > 50

Scientific Panel

- LIF
- ENG
- PHY
- SOC
- CHE
- ENV
- MAT
- ECO

Nationality

- [https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/charts]

Country Residence
African Members in MCAA

It is possible for the number of women in Africa participating in MCAA to increase. After all, Marie Curie was a woman!!!!

Countries

- South Africa
- Egypt
- Cameroon
- Ghana
- Rwanda
- Senegal
- Ethiopia
- Nigeria
- Tunisia
- Kenya
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe

- 2%
- 4%
- 6%
- 8%
- 1%
- 1%
- 12%
- 11%
- 21%
- 15%
- 15%
- 15%
Importance of Gender Summit Africa

Awareness of MCAA

Empowerment of scientific Research and innovation In Africa

HORIZON 2020

Emerging technologies In Science, education healthcare and business

AFRICA
MCAA Services

- Micro-grants
- ‘Travel’, ‘Media’, ‘One World’

- Job announcements
- From various sources, H2020 cooperation

- EC Call announcements

- Services
- Special arrangements

- Events

- Awards
- Recognition of efforts and achievements

Particular focus on Early-Stage Researchers
MCAA Web Site

https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu
Why join the MCAA?

• Keep in touch with past colleagues
• Benefit from MCAA services
• Enhance your career prospects
• Become part of a motivated, proactive and increasingly prominent community
• Enlarge your horizons for cooperation within H2020
• Contribute your efforts to promoting and building the MCAA
• Build the community spirit

MCAA membership is FREE, and is open to any past or current MCA beneficiary
Interested?

• Check out the MCAA web-site: https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu

• To join MCAA, complete the web-form: https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/user/register

• To contact the MCAA board use the form: https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu/contact-us
The best way to predict the future is to create it! *(Peter Drucker)*

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Thank you for your attention

[Wuraola Akande] on behalf of MCAA

https://www.mariecuriealumni.eu