

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina  
is organizing a roundtable discussion  
within the framework of the program

# She Excels in Science

## *Afro-Women Rule!*

With the participation of  
a group of academics and scholars

**Wednesday, 21 November 2018; 10:30 am – 2:30 pm**  
Bibliotheca Alexandrina Conference Center, Multipurpose Hall  
Simultaneous translation is available into Arabic, English and French.

## She Excels in Science: Afro-Women Rule!

The Bibliotheca Alexandrina organized a roundtable discussion within the framework of the program “She Excels in Science: Afro-Women Rule!”, co-organized by the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Information for Africa (BAIFA) and the Women’s Studies and Social Transformation (WSST) Program. It is worth mentioning that, BAIFA has launched this program since 8 March 2018 in recognition of the essential role played by African women in the advancement of science and scientific research in Africa.

Moderated by Dr. Imane Haggag, the roundtable discussion brings together: Professor Nagwa Abdel Meguid, Egyptian geneticist and laureate of the L’Oréal UNESCO Award for Women in Science for Africa and the Middle East; Professor Mona K. Marei, Professor of Prosthetic Dentistry, Founder and Head of Tissue Engineering Science and Technology/Laboratories, Alexandria University, Egypt; Dr. Yasmine Aguib, Head of Life Sciences Research at the Aswan Heart Centre (Magdi Yacoub Foundation, Egypt) and Honorary Research Fellow at Imperial College London; and Ms. Nahla Mokhtar, Corporate Communication Manager, L’Oréal Foundation.

In this context a number of Egypt-resident African students at the American University in Cairo and the African and Asian Affairs section in the Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport, shared their own success stories.





## Speakers

### Professor Nagwa Abdel Meguid



Dr. Nagwa Abdel Meguid is a Professor of Human Genetics, and Former Head of Human Genetics Unit, National Research Center (NRC) in Egypt. She holds a PhD in Human Genetics, and she is a Senior Geneticist at the Genetics Institute, Pasadena, California; a Fellow of Uppsala University, Sweden and Yale University. She was one of five selected scientists to win the outstanding L'Oréal UNESCO Award for Women in Science for Africa & Middle East (2002). Awarded with the National State Award of Excellence in Advanced Medical Science & Technology, 2016. She was given the Distinctive Arab Female Scientist Prize Creative Women in Genetics by the Arabian Gulf University. She has used her expertise to identify and describe several novel genetic syndromes. She has more than 80 international publications in elite journals, and supervised 60 theses. She is the head of the laboratory of research in DNA in genetic behavioral disorders, and Founder of autism research study. More autism genes identified. Jury president L'Oréal-UNESCO Awards. Member in Gender Research in Africa, Information Communication Technologies for Empowerment (GRACE). Head of CONEM Egypt Child Brain Research Group, and member in Council for Nutritional and Environmental Medicine, Norway.



## Professor Mona Marei



Professor Mona K. Marei, is a Professor of Prosthetic Dentistry. She is the Founder and the Head of Tissue Engineering Science and Technology/Laboratories, Alexandria University, Egypt. She holds a PhD in Prosthodontics from Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, Boston, USA. In 2011, she was elected President of the African–Material Research Society. She was appointed in a number of posts: a board member of Higher Council of Industrial Technology, Ministry of Scientific Research in 2009; a board member of permanent scientific higher committee for promotion in Dentistry, Ministry of Higher Education, Egypt, 2008; International Advisory, African Institute of Science and Technology, Nelson Mandela Institution for Knowledge Building, 2005. She occupied the post of Vice-President of Tissue Engineering Society International for Emerging Countries (2003–2005).

Professor Mona is the Principal Investigator, and Team Leader for a number of national and international projects and agreements in the field of biomaterials, biomedical engineering, and others. In 2016, she received the prize of Alexandria University Appreciation Award.

Professor Marei published numerous articles in international scientific journals, such as Dental Mesenchymal Stem Cell-Based Translational Regenerative Dentistry, Glass and Nano–Macro Porous Bioscaffolds in Bioactive Glasses, and others.





## Dr. Yasmine Aguib



Yasmine Aguib holds a Master's and a Doctoral Degree in Molecular Medicine and Biotechnology from the Technische Universität München (Germany) and is heading the Life Sciences Department at the Aswan Heart Centre, Magdi Yacoub Foundation. She holds an Honorary Research Fellowship at the National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London, UK; and adjunct Professor at the American University in Cairo.

Dr. Aguib has received several awards, such as the DAAD Fellowship for Young Researchers, the Presidential Science & Engineering Research Fellowship, the Governor's Award for Distinguished Research, and was recently awarded by the African Society for Human Genetics.

She worked in the field of Protein Engineering, where she contributed to the design of bispecific antibodies for cancer therapy in collaboration with Pieris Pharmaceuticals, GmbH.

In frame of the German Excellence Initiative she was appointed scientific consultant to the TUM President in the fields of life sciences and international strategic alliances where she contributed to the establishment of the TUM's Global Strategy and the EuroTech Universities Alliance.

In her role as a Deputy Director for Life Sciences Research at the AHC, she is contributing to the implementation and execution of AHC Research Strategy.



## Ms. Nahla Mokhtar



Nahla Mokhtar received her Bachelor's degree, in 2004, in Mass Communication Department of PR & Advertising from Cairo University. She has more than 13 years' experience in communication and public relations across many local and multinational companies.

In 2005, she started her profession in hotel business, followed by joining Oracle Corporation, May 2006 – July 2010, for more than 4 years, where Nahla launched Oracle green initiative locally. The Environmental

Management System, and took it to a further level in collaboration with the IT companies and MIT&I. In August 2010, Nahla joined Juhayna Food Industries where she established the External Communication function handling Public Relations, and Corporate Social Responsibilities. Years 2010–2012, she occupied the post of Mass Communication team leader; and 2012–2016, she was appointed as Head of Communication.

Capitalizing on her success, she was appointed as L'Oréal Egypt Corporate Communication Manager where she is leading the external communication on both Corporate and brands level, in addition to internal communication, Citizenship and Public Affairs. Within her current role, Nahla launched many successful CSR initiatives on top of them the L'Oréal Foundation main program "L'Oréal UNESCO for Women in Science Egypt Fellowship" in partnership with Academy of Science. Within her current capacity, Nahla appointed as L'Oréal Egypt Ethical Correspondences in 2018, in addition to Diversity and Inclusion Champion where she is rolling out programs promoting for gender equality and inclusion.





## Success Stories

### Godia Gloria Audu

Audu Godia Gloria, is a Marine Engineer. Graduated from Lyceum of the Philippines University, Marine Engineering in 2015, she has completed several professional trainings such as Basic Training (BT), Ship Security Awareness Training and Seafarers with Designated Security Duties (SSAT and SDSD), International Safety Management (ISM) Code Course, International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS), Engine Room Watchkeeping and Basic Training for Oil and Chemical Tanker (BTOC).

### Thamar Niyomukiza

Thamar Niyomukiza was born in Gasabo district, Kigali, Rwanda, in 1984. She received the BIT degree in business information communication and technology from Mount Kenya University, Kigali campus, in 2013; and currently doing Master's in Computer Science at the American University in Cairo.

In 2013, she joined the Department of Information Technology, Masaka District Hospital, at Gahanga Health Center, as an IT. Since December 2013, she has been with the ICT Department until recently, when she joined The American University in Cairo for graduate studies. Thamar's favorite subjects are programming and web designing. She enjoys playing video games, board games, and developing small applications. Thamar chose to obtain her Master's degree at AUC because she enjoys working with computers, and the career field has excellent opportunities.



## **Jessica Joseph**

Jessica Aboyi Joseph is a Nigerian student.

In 2015, she joined the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Marine Transport to obtain her Bachelor's degree in Marine Engineering.

After obtaining her Bachelor's degree she worked in the maritime industry, for example aboard a ship, offshore platforms or the port.

She would also like to pursue her studies by obtaining a Master's degree in Maritime Law and Business Law.

## **Chika Nchidem**

Chika Nchidem is Nigerian from Oworoshoki Lagos. She is a Marine Engineer at Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Marine Transport, Alexandria. She received her Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Marine Engineering from Lyceum of the Philippines, Batangas City.

She started her career in December 2017 as engine cadet at M/V Alda IV, Alexandria. Then in June 2018, she joined Namma Shipping Lines, Saudi Arabia.

She received the STCW 2010 Basic Safety Training certificates.





## Hauwa Yunusa

Hauwa Yunusa is a Nigerian student born 1996. In 2012, she received her Secondary School Certificate (WASSCE) from the Federal Government College. She obtained her Bachelor's degree Engineering in Marine Engineering from the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport in Egypt, during 2018.

She contributed to the following publications: Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG), and Design and Construction of Offshore Supply Vessels.

She received various awards: Second Best Student in Guided Sea Training Section; Certificate of Excellence, 2016; and the Award of Merit, 2018.

She received the following Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) certificates in 2010: Certificate of Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boat; Certificate of Proficiency in Advanced Firefighting and Fire Prevention; Certificate of Proficiency in Medical First Aid; Certificate of Proficiency in Personal Safety and Social Responsibility; Certificate of Proficiency in Security Awareness Training for Seafarers with Designated Security Duties; Certificate of Proficiency in Prevention and Combating of Marine Pollution; and Certificate of Proficiency in Personal Survival Techniques.



# Program

- 10:30–10:55 hrs** Registration
- 11:00–11:05** Opening speech by Bibliotheca Alexandrina
- 11:10–11:15** **Success Story by Chika Nchidem, Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport**
- 11:15–11:35** **Role of African Women Researcher in Science Responding to the Needs of Society**  
Professor Nagwa Abdel Meguid, Egyptian Geneticist and Laureate of the L'Oréal UNESCO Award for Women in Science for Africa and the Middle East
- 11:35–11:40** **Success Story by Jessica Joseph, Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport**
- 11:40–12:00** **The Factors Influencing Women's Choices Pursuing Careers in Science**  
Dr. Yasmine Aguib, Head of Life Sciences Research at the Aswan Heart Centre (Magdi Yacoub Foundation, Egypt); Honorary Research Fellow at Imperial College London
- 12:00–12:05** **Success Story by Godia Gloria Audu, Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport**
- 12:05–12:25** Discussions amongst the Panel
- 12:30–12:55** Coffee break





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- 13:00–13:05**      **Success Story by Thamar Niyomukiza, American University in Cairo (AUC)**
- 13:05–13:25**      **The Challenges and the Promises Facing Women in Biomedical Engineering Research in Africa**  
Professor Mona K. Marei, Professor of Prosthetic Dentistry, Founder and Head of Tissue Engineering Science and Technology/laboratories, Alexandria University, Egypt
- 13:25–13:30**      **Success Story by Hauwa Yunusa, Arab Academy for Science Technology and Maritime Transport**
- 13:30–13:50**      **For Women in Science** - Ms. Nahla Mokhtar, Corporate Communication Manager, L'Oréal Foundation
- 13:50–14:20**      Discussions amongst the Panel and open discussions
- 14:20–14:30**      Closing session
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