

DR. CHRISTABEL MUHONJA CURRICULUM VITAE

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Nationality: Kenyan

Home County: Kakamega County

ID Number : 22268861

Religion : Christian

Marital Status : Married

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Microbiology and Molecular Biology: Application of Microbes and Microbial metabolites in Biotechnology, Health, Agriculture and Environment.

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

2015 – 2018: Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology , PAUSTI/JKUAT

2009 – 2012: Master of Science in Microbiology, JKUAT, Kenya

2001 – 2006: Bachelor of Education (Science), 2nd Upper (Biology, major), Egerton, Kenya

1996 – 1999: Butere Girls High School :KCSE-(B-PLUS)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

2024: APECS fellow: Certificate in Science Communication

2022: Bioethics Training Certificate course by CBEC-KEMRI

2021: Research Methods Certificate Course by CBEC-KEMRI

2021: IERC (Institutional Ethics Review Committee) Bio-Ethics Training by NACOSTI

2019: Certificate in Resource Mobilization and Grant Writing by TCCA

2018: Awarded certificate of recognition for the best PhD Thesis in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology

2010: Biosafety Training Course with AfBSA (African Biosafety Association)

2006: Computer Training at The Comp Science Department, Egerton University

PROFESSIONAL AND CAREER EXPERIENCE

2018 Sept to Date: Full time lecturer (Grade 12) at Machakos University Department of Biological Sciences

2015-2018: Part time lecturer at JKUAT

2016-2018: Researcher at Institute of Biotechnology Research (IBR):

Research Skills Attained

- Molecular characterization of bacteria and fungi
- Isolation and Characterization of bacteria and fungi
- Analysis of molecular data (Bioinformatics)

2013-2014: Administrative Assistant –Surgipharm, Kenya-Nairobi

2011: Researcher at KEMRI (Centre for Microbiology Research-CMR)

Research Skills Attained

- Microbial Isolation & Characterization,
- Antibiotic screening techniques
- DNA extraction and Amplification, Gel profiling and Molecular Data Analysis

RESEARCH GRANTS

1. Biocontrol Bacterial Wilt Disease Using Bacteriophage Culture: 5th call for Machakos University Staff Internal Research Grants-**Awarded June 2022.**
2. Cancer Biomarkers Molecular Screening, funded by National Research Fund (NRF) Kenya-**Awarded April 2021**
3. Biodegradation of polyethylene by bacteria and fungi from Dandora dumpsite Nairobi-Kenya, funded by African Development Bank/PAU-Awarded 2016-2018-**Completed**

OTHER DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES HELD

1. **Secretary**-Machakos University Women In Science –MUWIS (to date)
2. **Ag. Director Quality Assurance**, Machakos University (Dec 2021 & Jan 2022)
3. **Examinations and Time tabling Coordinator**, Department of Biological Sciences Machakos University (to date)
4. **Member**- Machakos University Fifth International Conference committee
5. **Member**- Machakos University National strategies for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) mainstreaming committee for the FY 2021/2022
6. **Member** – Machakos University Institutional Ethics Review Committee (2020 to date)
7. **Member**- Machakos University Third International Conference committee
8. **Member** –Proposal review committee for internally submitted proposal at Machakos University (2019)
9. **Member** –Proposal review committee for internally submitted proposal at Machakos University (2018)
10. **Departmental Web Master** for the Biological Sciences Department-Machakos university (to date)
11. **Member** – Departmental Curriculum Review committee – Department of biological Sciences- Machakos University
12. **Supervisor**-Fourth Year Microbiology Major students research projects

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

1. Eliud N. Wafula, **Christabel N. Muhonja**, Josiah O. Kuja, Eddy E. Owaga, Huxley M. Makonde, Julius M. Mathara, Virginia W. Kimani, "Lactic Acid Bacteria from African Fermented Cereal-Based Products: Potential Biological Control Agents for Mycotoxins in Kenya", *Journal of Toxicology*, vol. 2022, Article ID 2397767, 17 pages, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1155/2022/2397767>
2. **Christabel Ndahebwa Muhonja**, Gabriel Magoma, Mabel Imbuga, and Huxley Mae Makonde, (2018) "Molecular Characterization of Low-Density Polyethylene (LDPE) Degrading Bacteria and Fungi from Dandora Dumpsite, Nairobi, Kenya," *International Journal of Microbiology*, <https://doi.org/10.1155/2018/4167845>.
3. **Christabel Muhonja Ndahebwa**, Makonde, H., Magoma, G., & Imbuga, M. (2018). Biodegradability of polyethylene by bacteria and fungi from Dandora dumpsite Nairobi-Kenya, *Plos One* 1–17.
4. **Christabel Muhonja**; Budambula, N.; Kiiru, J.; Kariuki, S. (2012). Characterization of antibiotic resistance in environmental enteric pathogens from Kibera slum in Nairobi-Kenya. *J. Bacteriol. Res.*, 4, 46–54.
5. **Christabel Muhonja**, Eunice M., Remmy K., Romano M., Anne-Kelly K., (2018) Isolation and Characterization of Haloalkaliphilic Bacteria from the Hot Springs of Lake Magadi. *African J of Mic. Res*
6. **Christabel Muhonja**, Eunice M., Remmy K., Romano M. (2018). Microbial Diversity of lake Magadi and other Soda lakes. *Intl J of Life Sciences Research* Vol. 6, Issue 3, pp: (449-454)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS/WORKSHOPS

1. Speaker at Machakos University Proposal and Grant Writing Webinar held virtually on 12th January 2022
2. Presented at The Machakos University Third Annual International Conference (22nd-25th June 2021)-Topic: Biocontrol of Aflatoxin using Lactic Acid Bacteria isolated from locally fermented foods in Kenya
3. Attended a Research Methods Certificate Course from 5th -9th July 2021 held virtually and organized-By CBEC-KEMRI
4. Attended the IERC (Institutional Ethics Review Committee) training held between 7th – 10th June 2021 at Egerton University-By NACOSTI
5. Attended a Public Lecture on "The Discourse on Public Perception on Biotechnology: Role of Biosafety Regulation" held at Machakos University on 12th June 2019 as a Panelist.
6. Attended a grant proposal writing Workshop by the International Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) held at KICC and organized by NACOSTI on 3rd July 2019.
7. Presented at the Machakos University Second Annual Scientific conference (April 2019)-Topic: Biodegradability of polyethylene by bacteria and fungi from Dandora dumpsite Nairobi- Kenya

8. Presented at the Ummah University Annual Scientific Conference (Sep 2018)-Topic: Molecular Characterization of Low-Density Polyethene (LDPE) Degrading Bacteria and Fungi from Dandora Dumpsite, Nairobi, Kenya.
9. Attended a Resource Mobilization and Grant Writing Course organized by Training Centre Communication Africa at Machakos University. (17th-19TH Oct 2018)-Participant
10. Participated in a Mendeleev Training as a co-trainer at the Pan African University complex on 20th Sep 2018

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL REFEREES

1. Dr. Ednah Songoro

CoD, Department of Medical Microbiology,
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture & Technology,
P.O. Box 62000-00299, Nairobi
Nairobi, Tel: [0723-244467](tel:0723-244467), E-mail: esongoro@jkuat.ac.ke

2. Dr. Heshborne Tindih

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3. Dr. Esther Maina

Senior Lecturer, Department of Biochemistry - University of Nairobi
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