

Network Update

Mentoring Circles

As promised, our Summer gathering offered expanded participation which was possible since we met via Zoom. Attendees shared how they were balancing work, school, and personal lives during the COVID 19 pandemic. Prof Gitau gave insider information on what academic recruiters look for in an applicant's resume / CV and provided useful [Do's and Don'ts](#). Attendees provided feedback with very valuable suggestions on topics for future meetings. We will be working on these over the next few months. This gathering was co-organized by Pauline Welikhe and Wairimu Nzoka. Good work Paula and Wairimu!



Welcome New Student Representative



Wairimu Nzoka has been appointed Student Representative on MTAWA's Board of Directors. Wairimu is the Operations Lead at You and I International and a Post Graduate Education student at Daystar University, with a background in Industrial Chemistry. She will serve for a two-year term effective May 2020.

Meet Our Newest Mentor

Dr. Mary Opiyo is an Aquaculture Research Scientist at Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute – Sagana Centre, Kenya. Her every day work involves working in sustainable aquaculture projects dealing with broodstock development, seed production (Monosex tilapia and African Catfish), fish health management and fish nutrition. She has 10 years of research experience, and project coordination in freshwater aquaculture. She recently finalized her PhD in Fisheries Science from Kenyatta University. Her thesis focused on the use of dietary probiotics in enhancing growth and immunity of Nile tilapia cultured in low input ponds. [Read More](#).



In Brief

Dear Members and Friends,



I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good health. This July, we opened up our local (West Lafayette) gathering to a broader audience, made possible by the now improved connectivity in response to the massive move to remote work. I was pleased to note that 3 of our mentees have recently completed their graduate programs (1 PhD, 2 masters) and I trust that others in the group found inspiration from hearing about these successes. The move to online learning (and the reduced skepticism towards online education) will likely open up more opportunities for distance students, as schools start to think of new models for their programs. We still, it would seem, have a long road ahead of us and there really is no going back to "the way things were" before the pandemic, but we can focus on what is working now and keep looking ahead.

My very best wishes,

Margaret Gitau
President

Our Volunteers

Abigail Ekeigwe
Caroline Marete
Christine Adhiambo
Clare Muhoro
Margaret Gitau
Margaret Okomo-Adhiambo
Pauline Welikhe
Senorpe Asem-Hiablie
Wairimu Nzoka

Get Involved! Contact us at mtawainc@gmail.com.

Academic Resume Do's and Don'ts

Do provide details of your education including your GPA
Do include research experience especially if applying for a PhD
Do include teaching experience especially at college level

Do include your professional experience/job history

Do use [action verbs](#) to describe your experience

Do list publications that you have authored or co-authored

Do include honors, awards, grants, and recognitions that you have received

Do include special skills e.g. programming, PCR, computer models, GIS, HPLC

Do include relevant coursework

Do include memberships in professional societies and the roles you play

Do ensure your contact information is current and use an email address you check frequently

Do include links to socio-professional media such as LinkedIn

Don't include your personal information (age, marital status, gender, etc.) or a photo/picture
Don't clutter the resume/CV or use small fonts to fit in more text

Don't use different colors, different style fonts, or fancy fonts

Don't include too much information like everything you did at a job or all classes that you have taken

Don't include links to social media you use for personal purposes

Don't include things you cannot substantiate

Don't get discouraged if you don't have everything on the Do list (everyone starts somewhere).