



# Women's Diverse Voices in STEM

A CMBES Webinar series special in March 2023

Sponsored by WiMBE IFMBE

March 8<sup>th</sup> 2023 marks International Women's Day, a chance to celebrate women's rights and advancement in STEM. CMBES is having a series of webinar during the whole month of March to highlight the diversity of women's voices in STEM. Join us as we celebrate their unique perspective from across the world!

**1st WEBINAR: March 7th 2023**

Time: 12h00-13h00



**Speaker:** Jessica Vandenberghe is the Industrial Chair - Indigenous Engineering (Indigenous- Canada)- Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Alberta

**Title:** Learning to walk in a Good Way

**Summary:** Canada has a lot of freedoms and is founded on democracy - it is important though to look back through Canada's history and at its present through diverse lenses though. When we look at Canada, we need to see the Truth - the oppressive actions towards First Nations and Metis Peoples and Inuit, gender discrimination and inequity towards females, and systematic privilege that leaves out other equity deserving groups like BIPOC, LGBTQ2S+, and newcomers. Growing up in Canada, it took awhile to see the many layers of systems that support certain prejudices and stereotypes and as the world advocates for movements such as UNDRIP and women's suffrage, change is coming at the hands of those of us with lived experience. This webinar will share Jesssica's lived experience, how she has learned to navigate the



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cis-gender, white, male dominated engineering profession and be a cycle breaker, dream weaver, and change maker. Jessica Vandenberghe, P.Eng., M.Sc. is born of the Dene Thá First Nation, is a sixties scoop survivor and raised in an inclusive German farming family in northern Alberta. Her exceptional career is based on two engineering degrees from the University of Alberta. She has worked in the oil sands, mining, regulatory, infrastructure, consulting industries and academia. She is a mother of two and at the intersection of two equity deserving groups in the Engineering Profession, which drives her passion for equity, diversity and inclusion and comes with the lived experience to move ahead Truth and Reconciliation to build strong, healthy relationships with Indigenous Communities. She believes in healing, ethical behaviour and will bring that to the Department as we work towards integrating Indigenous Ways, decolonization, and building the necessary programs to support First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students, staff and faculty to ensure our success.

[Link to register](#)

**Linkedin Profile:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/jessica-vandenberghe-p-eng-alberta/>

**2nd WEBINAR: March 14th 2023**

Time: 12h00-13h00



**Speaker:** Dr Jorjoh Ndure Tamedou- Chief Executive Officer at InSIST Global Gambia Ltd.

**Title:** From cytokines to ROIs: exploring your entrepreneurship potential as a PhD holder

**Summary:** In this webinar, Dr Jorjoh will describe her journey and how her PhD training prepared her for entrepreneurship and a leadership role. Dr Jorjoh Ndure Tamedou is a Gambian postdoctoral scientist who is now heading one of the largest and leading technology companies in the Gambia. She is also a co-founder of Afrijula which is one of the fastest growing start-ups in the country and has been described as the 'Quickbooks for the African merchant'. Following her graduation from university in the UK, Dr Jorjoh decided to return home to the Gambia working on several vaccine clinical trials at the Medical Research



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Council for almost 10 years as a scientific officer. Dr Ndure has a PhD in immunology. In 2019, Dr Jorjoh embraced using technology with the ulterior goal to solve challenges and contribute to national development. Using her people and project management, data analytics and research skills; Dr Jorjoh led her team to implement several country-wide projects such as developing the Education Management Information system for the Ministry of Higher Education Research, Science and technology; developing a business management tool for entrepreneurs to allow them to gain access to financing; a Labour Market and Migration Information System for the Ministry of Trade, Regional Integration and Employment to name a few. In addition to her work in leading her team to develop solutions that fit the Gambian context and solve challenges, she has contributed to the development of occupational standards, policy and strategy documents to drive the digital transformation agenda, and the training of STEM professionals in the Gambia. In addition to her work in leading her team to develop solutions that fit the Gambian context and solve challenges, she has contributed to the development of occupational standards, policy and strategy documents to drive the digital transformation agenda, and the training of STEM professionals in the Gambia.

[Link to register](#)

**Linkedin Profile:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dr-jorjoh-ndure-tamedou-phd-37954b68/>

**3rd WEBINAR: March 28<sup>th</sup> 2023**

Time: 12h00-13h00



**Speaker:** Professor Yasmine Abtahi.

**Title:** Woman, Life , Freedom - Woman in STEM: Stories of struggles, power and achievement

**Summary:** Women around the world are constantly fighting, to date, for their rights and dignity. This is specifically true for Women in STEM. In this presentation, Professor Yasmine Abtahi speaks about challenges, struggles and success of STEM woman, in Iran. Dr Abtahi exemplifies the power of Iranian



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women, in their current uprising “Woman, Life , Freedom” (Femme , Vie , Liberté ) that erupted all over Iran and around the world. This the first women- led revolution in the recent history is a symbol of power, resistance and a potent symbol for women in Iran. For over 40 years, Iranian women have been forced to follow oppressive laws with severe and deadly punishments if disobeyed. Hence, despite (of because of) the deadly oppression, they are flourishing. This presentation signifies parts of the stores of Women of Iran, specificity women in STEM.

[Link to register](#)

**Linked Profile:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/yasmin-abtahi-0a418618b/>

**Cost:** Free for both CMBES members and non-members, although you will need to create a free CMBES account if you don't already have one to register.

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