

Mauritius - USA Workshop



Biomaterials
Perspectives & Possibilities
30 November - 04 December 2009



Sponsored by

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

OPENING CEREMONY

Monday 30 November 2009

08.30 - 09.15

*Paul Octave Wiehe Auditorium
University of Mauritius
Réduit*

Background

The key objectives of the Workshop are:

- To initiate the establishment of an integrated interdisciplinary research, education and training program with a focus on the engineering of biomaterials for application in the biomedical field, including aspects of biomaterials, drug delivery, regenerative medicine, nanotechnology and biosensors;
- To gain additional perspectives on future needs and opportunities in the area of biomaterials through intensive discussion with government officials and commercial entities;
- To set up a Network of scientists in the Biomaterials and Drug Delivery field for the African Continent and big Indian Ocean region; and
- To develop joint research collaboration and joint ventures with the US.

The outcome of the workshop will be three fold:

1. Detailed planning document prepared over the five days to guide next steps for the region and for a report back to the NSF;
2. Specific planning for a follow on, more detailed conference as a hub for growth in the region in the area of biomaterials; and
3. Building of collaborative research projects with the US.

Opening Programme

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 08.30 - 08.40 | Welcome Address by Prof Dhanjay Jhurry, Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Mauritius |
| 08.40 - 08.50 | Address by Prof David Kaplan, Professor and Chair, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Science and Technology Centre, Tufts University, USA |
| 08.50 - 08.55 | Address by Prof Soonil Rughooputh, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research, Consultancy & Innovation) and Ag. Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius |
| 08.55 - 09.05 | Address by Dr The Hon. Vasant Kumar Bunwaree, Minister of Education, Culture & Human Resources |
| 09.05 - 09.15 | Address by The Hon. Dharambeer Gokhool, Minister of Industry, Science and Research |

Refreshments