



ACS Local Section
New York
Westchester Chemical Society

WESTCHESTER CHEMICAL SOCIETY

announces a **SCIENCE CAFÉ**

"Advocating for Pharmaceutical Drug Production in Africa"

Science Cafés are designed for informed interaction with members of the public on scientific matters of current concern in society. The essence of a Science Café is informality, with groups seated around tables, with food and drink to encourage conversation.

Speaker: Rolande Hodel, Ph.D.

President and Founder
AIDSfreeAFRICA
(non-profit organization
dedicated to empowering
Africans to produce
essential drugs locally)



Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024

Place: Gianfranco Pizzeria and Restaurant,
88 Virginia Road, North White Plains, NY 10603
Tel: 914-682-5655

Cost: \$5.00 for Social Hour refreshments
(\$3 Students)
Attendees pay for their own dinner

*** Seating limited: please RSVP to pcorfield@fordham.edu by
6 pm on Tuesday Sept. 3, if you plan to order dinner. *****

Please note that photos may be taken at the meeting and may be submitted for publication in the NY/North Jersey newsletter, The Indicator. If you do not want a photo of yourself submitted, let us know at the meeting.



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Timing: 5:30 PM Social and Snacks (Soft drinks and cheese platter provided, as well as a cash bar.)

6:00 pm Talk and Discussion

7:30 PM Option to Order Dinner

For further information:

Contact Peter Corfield, Email: pcorfield@fordham.edu

ZOOM LINK: <https://fordham.zoom.us/j/81608627029>

Abstract: Covid did not happen in Africa as feared by many in the field. However, it renewed the discussion on what will happen when the next pandemic comes along. The African continent is three times the size of the US, with four times the population of 1.4 billion. Since its inception in 2018, the African Medicines Regulatory Harmonization Foundation is focused on delivering a roadmap to Africa's participation in vaccine, medical supplies, and eventually drug production.

AIDSfreeAFRICA has long been focused on helping hands-on, consulting seven start up pharmaceutical companies in Cameroon. The organization recently approved a major shift to focus on international advocacy for drug production. We feel the time is ripe. So far topics that are being tackled are counterfeit prevention (Ghana, Gates), vaccine syringe manufacturing (Revital, Kenya, Gates) and compounding/packaging (UCL, Kenya, Strides). The Kilinto Industrial Park being built in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia promises incubator style capacity to host future pharmaceutical companies, but not necessarily drug producing factories. AIDSfreeAFRICA plans to make sure drug production with an eye on delivering medicine to African's will move center stage.



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Biography: Born in Germany, Dr. Hodel is a US citizen and a legal resident of Cameroon. She received her Masters of Science in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1995 and her PhD in Organic Chemistry from the City University of New York, Queens College in 2005 under Prof. Harry D. Gafney. Dr. Rolande R. Hodel received the following awards: 2009 Astellas USA Foundation humanitarian award \$30,000 for her work as founder and president of AIDSfreeAFRICA; Harvard University African Law Association, 2015, "Getting to Zero" World AIDS Day award; Rotary Club of Jersey City Service to International Legacy of Service Award, 2014; and Salute to Excellence Award, Westchester Chemical Society, a subsection of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, 2024. Dr. Hodel has worked at BASF/Germany, Nanocrystals Technology/NY, Pharmaceutical Discovery Corporation/NY (today Mannkind/CT) and Emisphere Technologies/NY mostly focused on developing inhalable Insulin. She taught Chemistry for eleven years as an adjunct professor at the Westchester Community College. Dr. Hodel is the President and founder of AIDSfreeAFRICA since 2005. She also represents Servas, an international peace organization at the United Nations, as a member since 1989; and served the Westchester Chemical Society, as Director, treasurer, and chair (1995 – 2024). She was appointed Associate 2009 of the American Chemical Society (ACS) Committee on International Activities. She is a National Tour Speaker for ACS speaker's bureau and serves on the board of directors of Chemists Without Borders since 2005.

Directions: Gianfranco's is on Virginia Road just 200 yards west of Bronx River Parkway in N White Plains. It is also about 1½ miles from the Sprain Brook Parkway: take the exit for 100C and go East, through the traffic light, past Westchester Community College on the right, and turn left on Virginia Avenue, past a gas station on your left.

Gianfranco's is in a mini-shopping center about 100 yards on the right.