

Combating Malaria in Post-Conflict Liberia: A Lesson for Africa



Symposium:

Jointly sponsored by

North Carolina A&T State University & the Liberian History, Education Development, Inc. (LIHEDE),
in collaboration with Bennett College of Greensboro, North Carolina,
Firestone Rubber Company, SN Brussels Airlines, and The Liberian Organizations in the Triad, North Carolina



Firestone
NATURAL RUBBER COMPANY

SN Brussels
Airlines

Theme of Symposium:

“Teaming up against malaria morbidity, mortality, and disability”

Date & Time of Symposium:

July 29-30, 2005 from 8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. each day

Venue of Symposium:

NC A&T State University’s Union SBR Foyer on July 29, 2005
and on July 30, 2005 in the Union Exhibit Hall.

The symposium organizing committee of the Liberian History, Education and Development, Inc. (LIHEDE) would like to invite you to attend this very important national symposium on Liberia, which is aimed at addressing the need for lasting, effective control and eventual eradication of malaria problems in Liberia – just as developed nations like the United States and Europe have done. At this symposium, we will explore cutting-edge technologies and treatments to end the suffering of the Liberian people and perhaps create a model for Africa to address this epidemic, which is destroying the lives of our children, the future of the African Continent. NC A&T State University Provost Dr. Carolyn Meyers, Greensboro City Manager, Mr. Edward Kitchen are expected to formally welcome symposium participants and guests to the University’s campus and to the City of Greensboro.

Emmet A. Dennis, Ph.D., Professor and Dean, Rutgers University College, Founding and Former Director, The Liberian Institute for Biomedical Research, has been invited to deliver the keynote address at the opening program,

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while Dr. Joel Jones, Director of Malaria Program, Liberian Ministry of Health & Social Welfare, is expected to deliver the keynote address at the symposium banquet.

The symposium will also include panel discussions and presentations by mostly Liberian medical professionals, academicians, Liberian community leaders, religious leaders and former Liberian government officials on selected topics relevant to the theme of the symposium, including Malaria Control-Research and Reality, Harmful Effects of Malaria, Malaria Control Methodologies and Techniques, Agronomy and DDT Safety. Other topics include: Why Liberian Children Die from Malaria Before Access to Treatment, and The Role of Typhoid Fever and Its Effect on the Diagnosis and Effective Treatment of Malaria in Liberia.

Liberian community leaders, academicians, professionals, and former government officials, presenting papers or serving as panelists at the symposium include Dr. Delvin Walker, Ken Carter, MPH, Dr. Eugene Sawyer, Dr. E. Brumskine, Ms. Muna Wreh, Mr. Roger Bate, Dr. Abu Mansalay, Dr. Eugenia Cooper, Ms. Nicole William, Dr. Fordee Kromah, Minister William Allen, Dr. Simukai Shamu, Mr. Peter Burgess, Mr. Sanie S. S. Sesay, Dr. Thomas Jaye, Dr. Simukai Shamu, Mr. Paul Driessen, Mr. Jeff Wildman, Dr. Lawrence A. Zumo, Dr. Francis Karteh, and Robert S. Desowitz, PhD, DSc., among others.

The symposium will climax with a soccer match between community teams, representing Liberia and Sierra Leone, within the spirit of the Mano River Union, and a dinner ball commemorating Liberia's Independence Day (July 26, 1847), sponsored by the Association of United Liberians in the Triad, North Carolina.

Thank you in advance for your interest and cooperation. We look forward to your participation and attendance. Please confirm your participation by phone or email, by contacting one of the following LIHEDE members:

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Topics and Presenters

Topic	Presenter
The Environmental Risks and Mosquitoes Prevalence in Liberia	Dr. Delvin Walker, Entomologist Former Chairman, Department of Science, Cuttington University College
HIV-Aids-Malaria	Ali S. Khan, MD MPH Captain, USPHS Chief (acting), Malaria Branch Associate Director for Science Division of Parasitic Disease, NCID, C CID
Collective Impact oft Malaria	Abu Mansalley, MD Pediatrician Step-by-Step, USA
Impact of Malaria During Pregnancy	Eugenia Cooper, MD, Pediatrician Baltimore, Maryland, USA
Malaria Control is Now an Affordable Reality	Ms. Nicole Williams Howe Enterprises, CT, USA

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Zimbabwean Experience in Malaria Prevention and Control: Lessons for Africans	Mr. Simukai Shamu Department of Community Medicine University of Zimbabwe College of Health Sciences, East Africa
The Tragic Economics of Malaria	Mr. Peter Burgess Founder and New York representative of the Transparency and Accountability Network (Tr-Ac-Net), USA
Case Studies/Malaria Research Findings in Sierra Leone	Mr. Sanie S. S. Sesay, BSc. Research Clinician Anti-malaria Combination Therapy Program Medical Research Council, Sierra Leone
Understanding Malaria as a National Security Issue	Dr. Thomas Jaye Research Fellow, Birmingham University, UK
Malaria Control - Research and Reality	Robert S. Desowitz, PhD, DSc Emeritus Professor of Tropical Medicine and Medical Microbiology, University of Hawaii Adjunct Professor of Epidemiology, University of North, Chapel Hill, USA
Prevention and Control in Endemic Areas	Mr. Ken Carter, MPH Guilford County Health Environmental Director, USA
The Emotional Toll of Malaria: Voices of Liberian Women	Ms. Muna Wreh, MPA, CSAC (Master's of Public Administration & a New Jersey Board Certified Substance Abuse Counselor).
Agronomy and DDT Safety	Mr. Paul Driessen Senior Policy Advisor, Congress of Racial Equality, USA
Liberia First	Mr. Bill Nesler and Jeffery Widmann West Coast Aerial Applicators with extensive experience in aerial pest control operations, USA
Why Liberian Children Die From Malaria Before Access Treatment	Dr. Tomeh Marbiah Head of the Liberian Institute of Biomedical Research (LIBR), Liberia
Cerebral Malaria, Clinical Manifestations, Neurologic and Neuropsychiatric Challenges	Lawrence A. Zumo, MD Neurologist with sub-specialization in Autonomic Nervous System Disorders, Syncope and HIV Neurology, USA
Epidemiological Evidence and Policy Implications of HIV/AIDS and Malaria Interactions in Adults	Sam Gbutue Vorkpor, MD, MSPH Chief Resident Meharry Medical College Division of Preventive Medicine of the Department of Family and Community Medicine
The Role of Typhoid Fever and Its Effect on the Diagnosis and Effective Treatment of Malaria in Liberia	Francis N. Kateh, MD, MHA, Public Health Director Anson County, North Carolina

Extra Activities	
Time	Event
July 30 th at 4:00pm	Greensboro vs: Salisbury
July 30 th at 8:00pm to 2:00 am	Union of Associations of Liberian Organizations in the Piedmont invites all Symposium guests to Liberia Independent Celebration Ball, including cultural troupes, etc.

Objectives of the Symposium

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The key objectives of the symposium are to:

- Create an innovative partnership and collaborative network between LIHEDE (an NGO) and Liberian doctors, corporations, chambers of commerce, government agencies and other NGOs to develop comprehensive new strategies to combat, control and conquer malaria.
- Benefit the poor, since studies show that poor Africans are 30% more likely to get malaria (and die from it) than middle and upper class Africans.
- Benefit women, as nearly half of Africa's malaria victims (especially deaths) are pregnant women, and another quarter are girls.
- Build a new framework for public-private partnerships, local capacity and innovative approaches to integrated malaria control.
- Protect vulnerable groups in emergency and post-conflict settings.
- Produce tangible impacts on the provision of basic services, including adequate preventive services, since careful pesticide programs will help reduce the number of malaria victims, improve medical care, and enhance the learning capabilities of students (since fewer of them will get malaria).
- Help improve Liberia's economy, by increasing the number of people who remain healthy all year and are thus able to work, attend school, teach, take care of their families and cultivate their fields. New concepts developed by the symposium will also help to increase tourism in Liberia, because reducing malaria and other diseases will make more tourists interested in visiting Liberia.

Background Information

The Liberian nation and people are suffering terrible, unsustainable losses of human life, human resources, capital investment and economic growth, because of malaria, one of the three worst infectious diseases and causes of death in Liberia. At any time it is likely that over 50% of the population in a hospital or clinic in Monrovia has malaria in some form or other, whether or not malaria was the reason for the visit. An estimated 4,500 Liberian children die each year. At this rate, our nation has buried 700,000 infants and children since its founding 158 years ago, or 3.5 times the number of Liberians who died during our barbaric civil wars. We are tired of seeing our children die daily from a disease that is readily preventable.

But the process of abating malaria in Liberia involves the collective efforts of all Liberians and friends of Liberia. It requires cutting-edge technologies and treatments to end the suffering of the Liberian people.

And it is in this light that the NC A& T State University at Greensboro, North Carolina and Bennett College at Greensboro, North Carolina have graciously accepted to sponsor a symposium on, "Combating Malaria in Post Conflict Liberia," in collaboration with the Liberian History, Education and Development, Inc. (LIHEDE). The symposium is scheduled for July 29-30, 2005 on the main campus of NC A&T State in Greensboro, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday, and from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday.

The symposium will serve as a reminder to all Liberians, and to Africans in general, that it is our obligation and our privilege to ensure that efforts are maximized toward alleviating the burden of malaria – and to tell the world that we can no longer permit our children to die, day after day and year after year, from a disease that is readily preventable. We must evaluate every available technology and methodology that can actually help us achieve significant and lasting reductions in malaria disease and death tolls; set the stage for launching effective malaria reduction and eradication programs in Liberia; resolve to overcome political obstacles; and provide lessons for the rest of Africa in all these vital health, environmental, economic and human rights areas.

Symposium Contacts & General Information

Combating Malaria in Post-Conflict Liberia: A Lesson for Africa

Symposium Contacts

<u>North Carolina</u>			
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Symposium Sponsors

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Car Rental, Lodging, and Airline Information

Lodging

By special arrangement with **LIHEDE**, **Quality located at off I-85 & Elm Street** will provide lodging at a **special rate of \$59** for double bed room. When making reservations give them the **Agreement Code: LIHEDE**. For reservation and further information please call (336) 275-9575.

By special arrangement with **LIHEDE**, **Holiday Inn Hotel, located at 3114 Cedar Park Road off I-40 (Exit 128)** will provide lodging at a **special rate of \$65.00** for a double bed room. When making reservation give them the **Agreement Code: LIHEDE**.

Please **make your reservations ASAP**. The hotel is within 3 minutes distance of NC A&T State University and Bennett College. For reservation and further information please call (800) 284-1493/or (336) 697-4000.

By special arrangement with **LIHEDE**, **Motel 6 located at 831 Green Heaven (Exit 122C) off I-40 (Exit 122C)** is offering a special rate for symposium attendees of \$37.99 per night for a deluxe room. To reserve a room, call Motel 6 directly at (1-800 466-8356 or 336-854-0993) indicating that you are attending the symposium. The hotel is within 7 minutes distance of NC A&T State University and Bennett College.

Airlines

By special arrangement with **LIHEDE**, **Independent Airlines** (1-800-FLY-FLYi (1-800-359-3594)) we'll be happy to help to book your ticket for the symposium. When calling the airline, please give them the **Agreement Code: 3MRLM3** to get your discount. You can also book online at www.flyi.com.

By special arrangement with **LIHEDE**, **Continental Airlines (800-468-7022)** will serve as the official airline for the symposium. All those flying into Greensboro to attend the conference will receive a 2% to 10% discount on the total price of the ticket. You must travel and return any time between July 24 and August 4, 2005. When calling the airline, please give them the **Agreement Code: 3JD6C7** to get your discount.

Car Rental

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By special arrangement with [LIHEDE](#), **Enterprise (call 336-855-6464)** will serve as the official car rental company for the symposium. All those flying into Greensboro to attend the conference will receive a special rate (\$35.00) per day for up to 100 miles. When calling the car rental company, please give them the **Agreement Code: N51777** to get your discount.