# Germaine Djuidje Kenmoe

Sub-Saharan Africa

Physics

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Dr. Germaine Djuidje Kenmoe, a physicist from Cameroon, is working on reducing friction on material surfaces. Her work has the potential to reduce the annual costs of energy and material losses caused by wear and can result in overall greater energy efficiency. Dr. Djuidje studies the properties of friction in the local regions of material surfaces and analyzes the conditions to achieve superlubricity, or extremely low friction. Her primary goal is to make it possible to switch friction on and off in the near future, just as we can flip a light switch on and off at home.

Dr. Djuidje Kenmoe was born in Bandenkop, Cameroon. She started her professional activities in 2001 as a teacher of Physical Sciences at the secondary school level, after obtaining a Diploma in Secondary Education from the University of Yaounde 1, Cameroon. She obtained a PhD in Physics from the University of Yaounde 1 in 2007 with a specialty in mechanics, and advanced at the university to her current level of Associate Professor of Physics.

> *"Receiving the OWSD-Elsevier Foundation award means that my research has an impact in the international scientific community. It will also help me to boost younger girls to take up a career in physics."*

Dr. Djuidje Kenmoe's research interests relate to friction and wear processes on the molecular scale (Nanotribology) and stochastic processes. Her research has appeared in many leading international journals including the *Journal of Tribology*, *Tribology Letters*, *Physica A*, *European Physical Journal B*, *Journal of Statistical Physics*, *Nonlinear Dynamics*, *Physica D*, *Fluctuation* and *Noise Letters*. She has successfully conducted several masters students, including many women, and she currently supervises seven PhD students (two are women). She helps to facilitate the development and advancement of young women in physics research careers as a mentor to young women scientists, and is the vice-president of her university's examination board for Masters degrees since 2015. She is an active member of several scientific communities, including APSA, ANSOLE and CPS. Presently, she is a pending Fulbright scholar after two stages of selection among top applicants across the country.