



## Morrine OMOLO

<b>Home Country</b>	<b>Kenya</b>
<b>Degree</b>	<b>PhD in Food Science</b>
<b>Expertise</b>	<b>Microbial Safety</b>
<b>Research Focus</b>	<b>Microbial Systems</b>
<b>Host University</b>	<b>Uni. of Minnesota, USA</b>
<b>Fellowship Awarded</b>	<b>2015</b>

Morrine Omolo is a Zawadi Africa Education Fund Scholar and Schlumberger Fellow at the UMN, Dept. of Food Science and Nutrition. She completed her BS in Biochemistry from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, NJ in May of 2012 and an MS in Food Science from UMN, Twin Cities in Dec of 2015.

For her PhD studies, Morrine is building Genome Scale Metabolic Models to investigate the global metabolic capacity of pathogenic *E. coli* to understand *in silico* how these microbes metabolize nutrients, and the genes and metabolites involved as potential targets for drug therapy.

In the summer of 2017, Morrine will be conducting workshops for women farmers growing leafy green vegetables in Kisii, Kenya, as part of UMN extension on a USDA grant. She will be offering sessions on postharvest handling and food safety concepts in handling fresh vegetables. Her other projects include creating a microbial map for select foods from local Kenyan markets and investigating the effects of neomycin treatment on the cecal microbiome of commercial turkey poults.

After completion of her PhD studies, Morrine plans to return to her home country. She intends to participate in the food safety system of Kenya and apply her microbiology and systems biology knowledge towards improving its food security. Morrine also enjoys knowledge transfer, and looks forward to teaching food microbiology. She looks forward to meeting new people and broadening her network of likeminded scientists interested in food safety and knowledge transfer through consumer education.