

CURRICULUM VITAE *of* RALITSA DIANA DEBRAH

Personal information

Name: Ralitsa Diana Debrah (PhD)

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

A) Academic institutions attended with dates

2013 - 2021	Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), Faculty of Informatics & Design, Cape Town, South Africa
2017 - 2018	University of Cape Town (UCT), Cape Town, South Africa
2007 - 2010	Kwame Nkrumah, University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana
2002 - 2006	Kwame Nkrumah, University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi, Ghana

B) Academic institutions attended with dates (Continuing Professional Development [CPD])

2021 - 2021	University of Virginia/ Boston Consulting Group (October 2021)
2021 - 2021	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (May 2021)
2021 - 2021	University of Virginia/ Darden School of Business (April 2021)
2021 - 2021	Allison Courses Online (April 2021)
2020 - 2020	Commonwealth of Learning and Athabasca University, Canada (Oct – Nov, 2020)
2020 - 2020	The Open Education Resource Universitas (OERu) (October 2020)
2020 - 2020	Darden School of Business, University of Virginia (September 2020)
2020 - 2020	Happy. Co. LTD, United Kingdom (August 2020)
2020 - 2020	Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, (Digital Society School, May 2020)

2018 - 2018	University of Cape Town (UCT), Cape Town-South Africa (March-May 2018)
2006 - 2006	Ghana Institute of Journalism (GIJ), Accra, Ghana (July –August 2006)

A) ACADEMIC DEGREES EARNED WITH DATES

2013 – 2021	Doctor of Applied Art in Design (DAAD)
2017 – 2018	Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip: Educational Technology)
2007 – 2010	Master’s Degree in Communication Design (MComm. Design)
2002 – 2006	Bachelor’s Degree in Design (BFA. Graphic Design)

B) ACADEMIC DEGREES EARNED WITH DATES (Continuing Professional Development [CPD])

2021 – 2021	Certificate: Digital Transformation Course (October 2021)
2021 – 2021	Certificate: Learning Technologies Foundation and Applications Course (April 2021)
2020 – 2021	Certificate: Innovating with the Business Model Canvas Course (April 2021)
2020 – 2021	Certificate: Online Marketing and Advertising Course (April 2021)
2020 – 2020	Certificate: Introduction to Technology-Enabled Learning (October – November 2020)
2020 – 2020	Certificate: OER - Creative Commons, Copyright Licensing (October 2020)
2020 – 2020	Certificate: Design Thinking for Innovation (September 2020)
2020 – 2020	Certificate: Liberating Structures Online Immersion Workshop (August 2020)
2020 – 2020	Certificate: Online Design, Teaching and Learning Course (May 2020)
2018 – 2018	Certificate: Facilitating Online (March – May 2018)
2006 – 2006	Certificate: Public Relations, Advertising and Marketing

WORK EXPERIENCE

2022 – present	Designer/ Coach - Young Designers Circle (YDC) World Design Organization Montreal, Canada
2022 – present	Liaison officer – Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and Cumulus, Aalto University, Finland
2020 – 2022	Designer & Researcher World Design Organization (WDO-Young Designers Circle 1 st Cohort) Montreal, Canada

2018 – present	Member/ Facilitator E/merge Africa, CHED, CILT, University of Cape Town, South Africa
2013 – 2018	Design Research Assistant/ Facilitator Design Research and Activities Workgroup (DRAW) CPUT, Cape Town- South Africa
2015 – present	Lecturer - KNUST, Kumasi – Ghana
2011 – 2014	Assistant Lecturer - KNUST, Kumasi – Ghana
2010 – 2013	Graphic Designer/ Film editor - Pinhole Productions, Accra – Ghana
2004 – 2006	Graphic Designer/ Film editor - Lowe Lintas, Accra – Ghana

WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, EXHIBITIONS

- ❖ 2025
Social Design Days, Conference
Venue: Zaragoza, Spain
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2024
DESIS Conference – React to the Essence
Venue: Wuxi, China
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2023
Service Design (Serv.Des) Conference
Venue: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2022
Fodesup online Conference
Venue: Pretoria, South Africa (Online)
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2022
D.Confestival – Design Thinking Matters Now!
Design thinking + Well-being - Live online session with YDC
Venue: Cape Town, South Africa (Hybrid)
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2022
World Industrial Design Day – Let's Talk Diversity
The Importance of Female Leadership in Design
Venue: Paris, France (Virtual)
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2022
World Design Assembly (WDA) –
Research and Education Forum / Design conference
“Design for the Unimagined”
Venue: Montreal, Canada (Virtual)
▪ *Guest Speaker / Participant*

- ❖ 2021 Annual Prestige Research Seminar
Faculty of Humanities – Central University of Technology, South Africa
 - *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2021 DEFSA Conference
Johannesburg, South Africa
 - *Participant*
- ❖ 2021 World Industrial Design Day
WDO/ YDC – Live Jam
 - *Moderator*
- ❖ 2021 Cumulus Design Conference
DESIS Conversations- Italy, Rome
 - *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2020 WDO/ Open Design Afrika Festival (ODA)
 - *Guest Speaker / Curator/ Co-convener/ Participant*
- ❖ 2020 World Interaction Design Day (IXDD) – Culture and Sustainability
 - *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2020 WDO – World Design Capital, Lille, Metropole (Exhibition)
 - *Participant/ Designer*
- ❖ 2020 WDO – World Design Capital, Lille, Metropole
(Conference – Strange Night of Design, Civic City)
 - *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2020 WDO – Generation Equality, Asia Pacific Design Challenge (Workshop)
 - *Participant/ Designer*
- ❖ 2020 WDO - World Industrial Design Day (WIDD)
 - *Guest Speaker / Participant*
- ❖ 2020 E/merge Africa Webinar Series – CILT, UCT, Cape Town
 - *Guest Speaker/ Co-convener*
- ❖ 2019 Vega Brand Challenge, VEGA School, Cape Town, South Africa
 - *Member of the Jury Panel (External Moderator)*
- ❖ 2019 DEFSA Conference, VEGA School, Cape Town, South Africa
 - *Participant*
- ❖ 2019 WDO – Research + Education Forum, Humanizing Design, Hyderabad, India
 - *Participant/ Presenter*
- ❖ 2019 British Council - Creative Hustle Conference, Kumasi, Ghana
 - *Guest Speaker/ Co-convener*
- ❖ 2019 International Design Education Conference (IDEC), Winneba, Ghana
 - *Conference Participant/ Local Organising Team*

- ❖ 2018 International Service - Learning/ Ubuntu Leadership Academy through community engagement, Cape Town, South Africa
 - *Participant/ Design researcher*
- ❖ 2017 Network of African Designers Conference (4th NAD- KIDEC), Kumasi, Ghana
 - *Conference participant*
- ❖ 2016 Cumulus Conference, “Open Design for Everything”, Hong Kong
 - *Conference participant*
- ❖ 2016 International LeNSes Conference, Cape Town, South Africa
 - *Conference participant/ Co-facilitator for Doctorial Colloquium*
- ❖ 2016 Design Research Conference (DRS), Brighton, England
 - *Conference participant*
- ❖ 2015 Design Ndaba (Design exhibition and conference), Cape Town, South Africa
 - *International Guest Judge (Representative from West Africa)*
- ❖ 2014 Cumulus Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
 - *Participant*
- ❖ 2014 World Design Capital Conference (WDC), Cape Town, South Africa
 - *(Ghana)/ Guest Speaker*
- ❖ 2014 20th Edition of the International Publishing and Book Fair, Casablanca, Kingdom of Morocco
 - *Participant/ ECOWAS representative for Government of Ghana*
- ❖ 2012 University of Michigan Community Engagement, Accra-Ghana
 - *Workshop coordinator/ Researcher*
- ❖ 2011 2nd Kumasi Biennial Symposium– KNUST, Kumasi-Ghana
 - *Participant/ Co-convenor*

OTHER PROFESSIONALLY RELATED EXPERIENCE

- ❖ 2025 – *present* Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability (DESI Network)
International Co-ordinator
- ❖ 2022 – *present* World Design Organization (WDO),
Young Designers Circle (YDC)
Sub-committee Member (YDC)
- ❖ 2020 – *present* Inclusive Tech Group (ITG)
Design Innovation Specialist
- ❖ 2015 – *present* Design for Social Innovation and Sustainability (DESI) LAB initiatives
Design researcher/ Operations Manager, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)

- ❖ 2014 – *present* C-SAN Futures
Design researcher, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)
- ❖ 2019- *present* Kumasi Hive, Kumasi Ghana
Design and Research Support, DeCoDe, KNUST
- ❖ 2013- *present* Open Design Afrika (ODA), Cape Town, South Africa
ODA Afrikan Ambassador, Team Member
- ❖ 2013 -2018 INDEHELA–Health Information Systems for Development (ISD4D), Africa
Design Researcher/ Service designer/ workshop facilitator
- ❖ 2011– *present* Focus Foundation (Now Adepa Innovate), Kumasi Ghana
Founding Director/ Core Team member

AWARDS

- ❖ 2024 Don Norman Design Awards (DNDA) – Emerging Design Promising Project Category, California, USA
Available at: <https://dnda.design/>
- ❖ 2022 Forty-Under-Forty - Emerging Leaders and Young Achievers Award Nominee – Education Category (Accra, Ghana)
Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9btj2f>
- ❖ 2016 LeNSes Conference 2016 - Design competition, Winner No: 3, Cape Town, South Africa
Available at: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8m5h66>
- ❖ 2010 International Apex Exhibition Franchise Program: Placed 2nd Top 10 Project Exhibition Apex Art, New York, USA
Available at: <http://www.apexart.org/franchise.php>
- ❖ 2000 Millennium Art Exhibition Awards, United Nations Accra, Ghana

HOBBIES

Reading, Writing, Making and Mentoring, Movies, Singing, Dancing and Playing Tennis.

REFERENCES

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