

Short Bio: Jean D. Sibonga obtained a B.S. in Chemistry and English (1980) from University of Puget Sound (Tacoma, WA), a Ph.D. in Biochemistry (1988) from Loma Linda University (Loma Linda, CA) and received post-doctoral training at the Harvard School of Dental Medicine (Boston, MA) and the Mayo Clinic (Rochester, MN). Dr. Sibonga's career in the skeletal field began as a NASA graduate student researcher in the bone laboratories of Dr. Emily Morey-Holton (Ames Research Center) and Dr. David Baylink (JL Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital, Loma Linda). Collectively, she has been a scientist in bone and mineral for close to 40 years where she applied skills in bone histomorphometry (both clinical and preclinical), immunohistochemistry, biochemical assays and in animal models for osteoporosis to investigate the effects of pharmaceutical agents, steroid hormones and mechanical loading-unloading on bone remodeling. She has over 45 publications in her bibliography (21 reports relevant to bioastronautics) and has served as an assistant professor in Orthopedic Research at Mayo College of Medicine and as an adjunct assistant professor in Department of Orthopedic Surgery and Rehabilitation at the University of Texas Medical Branch (Galveston, TX). Dr. Sibonga came to NASA Johnson Space Center in February 2005 as a basic scientist in Bone Cell Biology & Physiology. Since 2006 she has served as the Discipline Lead for Bone in the NASA Human Research Program