



PhD and Junior Post-Doctoral Fellowships at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources and Biosecurity (COVAB), Makerere University.

Project Summary

Funded by the African Academy of Sciences in collaboration with Wellcome, under the Human Heredity and Health in Africa (H3A) Initiative, TrypanoGEN+ is a Pan African collaborative research network investigating how host and parasite genetics influence susceptibility to Human African Trypanosomiasis and Schistosomiasis. The network comprises of 7 Institutions in Cameroon, DRC, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Malawi, and Uganda, as well as 3 Northern partners in France and the United Kingdom.

The TrypanoGEN+ component at COVAB wishes to offer Fellowships in the following research areas:

1. Postdoctoral fellowship (1 position):

Functional studies with susceptibility genes in animal models and a structural bioinformatics approach to unravel mechanisms of human trypanotolerance with a view to devise novel approaches to disease control.

2. PhD Fellowships (2 positions)

- i. Host and parasite transcriptomics in relation to clinical profiles in schistosomiasis patients
- ii. Community engagement in the context of genomic research in Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) and the related ethical, legal and social issues; the case for human African trypanosomiasis and schistosomiasis.

Eligibility

PhD Fellowships are open to Uganda nationals below 35 years of age. Applicants should hold an MSc degree specialising in either

- i. Masters Degree in a Biomedical field (Molecular Biology, Computational biology, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Biochemistry). Previous experience working with NTDs as well as exposure to molecular biology techniques including bioinformatics will be added advantage;

or

- ii. Masters degree majoring in ethics, bioethics or related field. Previous exposure working with communities in a similar field will be added advantage.

Post Doctoral Fellowship applicants ought to be, under 40 years of age and holders of PhD in Biomedical science related fields (or prove to have submitted a good dissertation) within the past 1 year. Experience in genomics/genetics of NTDs is desirable; sufficient knowledge in bioinformatic manipulations of large sequence data sets is essential.

All applicants should be fluent in English, with excellent communication skills and demonstrated ability to work in a highly motivated, result oriented group.

Application Process

- i) Prospective applicants should contact The Program Manager (nerima.barbara@gmail.com) to express their interest and submit their current Curriculum Vitae (Deadline 2nd July 2019).
- ii) Applicants found to be eligible will be asked to send in a full application, a cover letter with a motivation statement, and names of two referees; the referees will be required to separately send recommendation letters to the Program Manager. (Deadline 15 July 2019).
- iii) Those who qualify from ii) above will be invited to submit a Concept note in line with their preferred research theme. (Deadline 30 July 2019).
- iv) The best three candidates for each post will be invited for oral interviews to select the candidate that will be funded.

Fellowship Award

Successful candidates will receive an award letter.

The fellowship will provide a monthly stipend, research expenses and travel costs.