



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE & HYGIENE
ADVANCING GLOBAL HEALTH SINCE 1903



Centennial Travel Award in Basic Science Tropical Disease Research

.....
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

\$25,000 Award



Application Deadline: July 11, 2018

astmh.org



2017 Centennial Travel Award Recipients



Melissa Conrad, PhD

University of California, San Francisco

Uganda



Usheer Kanjee, PhD

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

India



“

This experience will allow me to develop the unique expertise required to obtain independent funding and establish myself as an independent researcher.

Melissa Conrad, PhD

“

This opportunity is an invaluable step in my goal of pursuing an independent academic career in malaria research.

Usheer Kanjee, PhD

Application
Deadline:
July 11, 2018

About the ASTMH Centennial Travel Award in Basic Science Tropical Disease Research

The Centennial Travel Award was established in 2003 to commemorate ASTMH's 100th anniversary. This centennial milestone is honored with this award that fosters international collaboration in the basic science of tropical infectious diseases.

This award also provides physicians and scientists the opportunity for field experience in combination with laboratory studies of parasitic, bacterial or viral infectious diseases in endemic developing countries.

In an effort to stimulate interest in tropical infectious diseases and build international collaborations, ASTMH seeks applications from physicians and scientists for this international career opportunity focused on benefiting underserved populations in locations in the world where the burden of disease is high.

Centennial Travel Award At-A-Glance

- Full-time postdoctoral fellows (PhD, MD degrees or the equivalent) with positions at accredited U.S. or Canadian institutions
- Studies focusing on any tropical infectious disease in one or more of the following disciplines or related areas: immunology, genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry, cell biology and entomology
- The project to be carried out in the year 2019
- Financial support of \$25,000
- A minimum of six months to be spent at the overseas site
- **Preference given to ASTMH Post-doc/Fellow (\$25 annual dues)**
- Award notice sent in late September 2018

Front cover images:

Second from the left: *Anopheles darlingi* dissected to count midgut *Plasmodium vivax* oocysts

Fourth from the left: Midgut of *Anopheles darlingi* showing *Plasmodium vivax* oocysts



Award Notice

Applicants will be notified of decisions in late September 2018.

Eligibility

A highly competitive award, the Centennial Travel Award Committee will select the 2018 recipient based on academic credentials, recommendations, quality of proposal, feasibility of completing the project, potential for enhancing international collaborative possibilities and demonstration of deep commitment in a career in international tropical infectious disease research. It is expected that the recipient will use this funding for career development.

- Applicant must be a full-time post-doctoral fellow (with PhD or MD degree or the equivalent) with a position at a U.S. or Canadian institution.
- Applicant must study a tropical infectious disease in one or more of the following disciplines or related areas:
 - immunology
 - molecular biology
 - cell biology
 - genetics
 - biochemistry
 - entomology
- Co-mentors must be identified both at a U.S. or Canadian and an overseas institution. Each co-mentor must submit a letter of support that details locally available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel).
- Sponsoring U.S. or Canadian and international institutions are responsible for assuring that the proposed studies are compliant with contemporary regulations, including those related to human subjects and biohazards.
- A minimum of six months must be spent at the overseas site.
- The project should be carried out in the year 2019.
- Preference will be given to:
 - ASTMH member-sponsored applications
 - [ASTMH Post-doc/Fellow member applications \(\\$25 annual dues\)](#)

Funding and Award Administration

The awardee institution will receive financial support of \$25,000 for a research experience in the tropics to leverage further career development.

The award will be made to the recipient's home institution which will be responsible for administering this funding. The home and overseas institutions must certify that planned studies are fully compliant with human subjects, biohazard and other regulatory issues.

No institutional overhead will be provided.

Online Application Site

The [application](#) site opens June 6, 2018.



Application Process and Requirements

Applicants are encouraged to gather all application materials prior to [online submission](#).

Although it is possible to edit the application prior to the July 11 deadline, the submission process will be more efficient if the application is completed in one session.

Application packet must include: Curriculum Vitae

Information from CV regarding education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards.

Research Plan

A research plan in a modified NIH grant format, to include the following information:

- Clear aim(s) with a brief and clear statement of a specific, testable hypothesis (1/2 page)
- Background and significance, including how the project will lead to further research career development (1 page)
- Preliminary data [it is not expected that preliminary data will be available] (1/2 - 1 page)
- Experimental design and methods (2-3 pages)

It is important that the project clearly describes how it will provide the basis of further career development, i.e., the data obtained from the supported project be the basis of NIH K08, K23, K01 or equivalent career development awards.

Career Interests

- Brief summary explaining your interest in this work and your career interests (not to exceed 1,500 characters)
- Description of how the Centennial Travel Award will enhance your career development in tropical medicine and hygiene (not to exceed 1,500 characters)

Letters of Recommendation

Three letters of recommendation are required, submitted as PDF or Word files on institutional letterhead.



The data resulting from this project will provide the basis of my application for a K-01 award.

Heather Glasgow, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Overseas site, South Africa- 2016 Award Recipient



APPLICANTS – Individuals with doctoral-level degrees who seek travel to laboratories in the tropics to pursue studies in molecular, cellular or immunological aspects of tropical infectious diseases.

Application site opens — June 6, 2018

Application deadline — July 11, 2018

Notice of award — Late September 2018



After July 11, 2018, applications without the required three letters of recommendation will be disqualified.

The letters must include detailed, careful descriptions of infrastructure, additional financial support, intellectual, scientific and clinical environment and other resources necessary for success of the project. The letters of recommendation should indicate which mentors are ASTMH members.

Letters of recommendation are required from:

1. The U.S. or Canadian faculty co-mentor, detailing local available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel)
2. The overseas research co-mentor, detailing local available support, resources and availability for supervision (whether personally or by collaborating personnel)
3. A current or former teacher or supervisor who can attest to the academic and/or research abilities and potential of the applicant

Applicant Responsibility

The [application site](#) will prompt the applicant to provide the name, postal address, phone, fax and email for each of the individuals providing letters of recommendation. The application site will then generate an email to these individuals with instructions to upload their letters to the application site. Applicant **must** inform the three individuals providing letters of recommendation that they must upload their respective letters directly to the application site.

It is important that the applicant gather the contact information for these individuals prior to beginning the online application. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that each individual has received the email generated by the application site and has uploaded their respective letters by the July 11 deadline.

Regulatory Compliance Documentation

- A letter from an appropriate authority from applicant's **home institution** confirming that the planned study is fully compliant with federal, state and local requirements for human subjects, animal care and use, biohazards and other applicable regulatory issues
- A letter from an appropriate authority from the **overseas institution** confirming that the planned study is fully compliant with government and local requirements for human subjects, animal care and use, biohazards and other applicable regulatory issues

Applicant Responsibility

The applicant is responsible for uploading the regulatory compliance documentation from the home institution and overseas institution to the application site. Applicants are encouraged to obtain these documents prior to posting to the online application.

Finalizing the Application

After entering the required information into the online application and all document uploads have been made, proceed to the REVIEW SUBMISSION page and scroll to the bottom. If all information has been entered correctly, a drop-down menu will display at the bottom of the page. Select the COMPLETE response in the drop-down menu and press SAVE. The application will then be complete and ready for review by the Centennial Travel Award Committee.

Final Report

A maximum three-page report must be submitted within 30 days outlining the travel experience and lessons learned. Periodically, awardees may be invited to present their reports at the ASTMH Annual Meeting. Final reports should be submitted to Rhonda Schultz at rschultz@astmh.org.

Notice of Award

Award notice will be sent in late September 2018

Applicant Checklist

- ☒ CV information
- ☒ Research plan
- ☒ Career Interests
- ☒ Recommendation letter from U.S. or Canadian co-mentor
- ☒ Recommendation letter from overseas co-mentor
- ☒ Recommendation letter from teacher or supervisor
- ☒ Regulatory compliance documentation
- ☒ **Preference given to ASTMH Post-doc/Fellow member (\$25 annual dues)**
- ☒ Applicant photo (2-inch x 2-inch JPEG file, head shot preferred)

Awardees and Overseas Study Locations

astmh.org

CONGRATULATIONS

Heather Glasgow

2016

Albert Einstein College of Medicine



South Africa

Brie Falkard

2015

Massachusetts General Hospital



Haiti

Anna Babakhanyan

2014

Case Western Reserve University



Kenya

Sarah-Blythe Ballard

2013

Johns Hopkins University



Peru

Ami Bei

2012

Harvard School of Public Health



Senegal

Anne Frosch

2011

University of Minnesota



Kenya

Amma Semanya

2010

CDC



Kenya

Robert Comer

2009

Wake Forest University Baptist
Medical Center



Bolivia

Jessica Lin

2008

University of North
Carolina, Chapel Hill



Cambodia

Judith Denery

2007

Scripps Research Institute



Guatemala

Rhoel Dinglasan

2007

Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg
School of Public Health



Papua New Guinea

Sanjay Mehta

2007

University of California, San Diego



Brazil

Amber Read

2007

University of New Mexico



India

Erika Lamb

2006

Uniformed Services University of
the Health Sciences



Brazil

Stephen Popper

2006

Stanford University



Laos

Scott Westenberger

2006

Scripps Research Institute



Peru

Annette Kraus

2005

University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill



Sri Lanka

Gnanasekar Munirathinam

2004

University of Illinois College of
Medicine, Rockford



India

Kristine Peterson

2004

University of Virginia



Bangladesh

Katie Kurkjian

2003

CDC



Bangladesh

Myiang Nyung

2002

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of
Public Health



Zambia