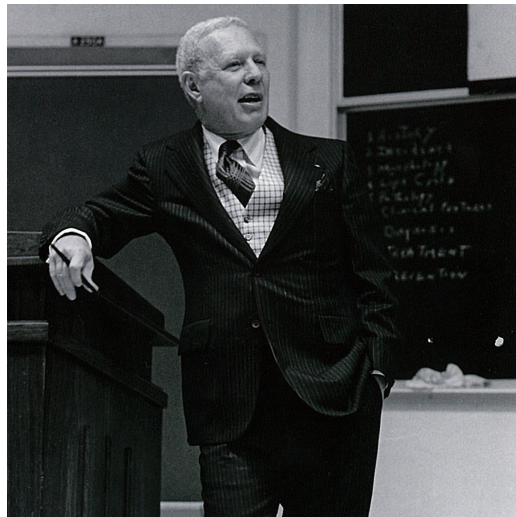
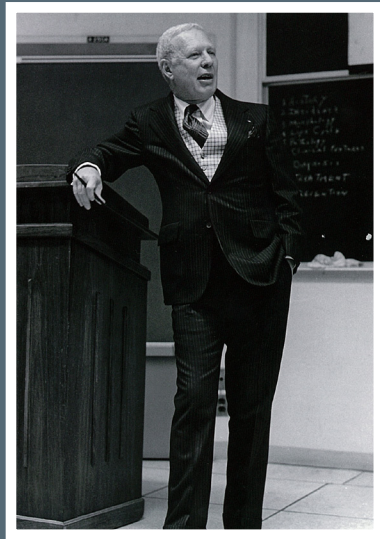


# Benjamin H. Kean

## Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine





## About Benjamin H. Kean and the Kean Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine

Benjamin H. Kean, MD (1912-1993), an internationally acclaimed expert in tropical medicine, discovered the causes of several diseases including turista, also known as travelers' diarrhea. Moreover, he was a renowned teacher, researcher and practitioner of tropical medicine whose mentorship and support enabled many medical students and physicians-in-training to begin and sustain their careers in tropical medicine. He fiercely maintained that early hands-on experience in the tropics was the best way to stimulate a career in tropical medicine. Dr. Kean was instrumental in helping many medical students obtain these fundamental experiences that spurred lifetime commitments.

In 1998, to honor Dr. Kean and build on his legacy of engaging students in an interest in and passion for tropical medicine, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene established a fellowship in Dr. Kean's name — The Benjamin H. Kean Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine. The Fellowship honors his significant contributions to the field and perhaps more importantly, enables his passion for teaching and mentoring to continue.

The Fellowship provides travel expenses for medical students who arrange clinical tropical medicine or tropical medicine research electives in areas afflicted by diseases or illnesses common in the tropics.

## Kean Fellowship At-a-Glance

- Open to full-time medical students in accredited schools of medicine in the United States or Canada.
- Research or clinical training in tropical medicine or global health with at least one month at a site for endemic diseases or illnesses common in the tropics.
- Fellowship includes:
  - ▶ 3-years complimentary membership
  - ▶ Round-trip coach airfare
  - ▶ \$1,000 US stipend to offset additional travel expenses
  - ▶ Complimentary meeting registration to the Annual Meeting
- **Preference given to ASTMH student member (\$15 annual dues).**

Open to full-time medical students in accredited schools of medicine in the United States or Canada.

## Eligibility

- Applicant must be a full-time medical student in an accredited school of medicine in the United States or Canada at the time of the application and at the time of the elective.
- Applicant must propose an elective conducting research or clinical training in tropical medicine or global health with at least one month at a site for endemic diseases or illnesses common in the tropics.

### Preference will be given to:

- Applications sponsored by a member of the American Committee on Clinical Tropical Medicine and Travelers' Health (ACCTMTH – Clinical Group).
- Applications proposing electives lasting longer than one month.
- Applicants who have not had previous extensive overseas experience.
- Applications that propose study of diseases or illnesses common in the tropics other than HIV/AIDS
- Applicants with student membership in ASTMH (\$15, [learn more](#)).

## Funding

### Financial support for clinical and research electives in tropical medicine as follows:

- Round-trip coach airfare (best-price ticketing) to and from the overseas location indicated in recipient's application form
- \$1,000 US stipend to offset additional travel expenses
- Complimentary meeting registration to the Annual Meeting
- 3-years complimentary membership

## Exclusions

The Fellowship does not support electives in non-tropical areas or participation in organized didactic courses.

### Automatic declines:

- Applications indicating a start date before June 1.
- Applications indicating less than one month at the overseas site.

## Final Report

Fellowship recipients are required to submit a maximum three-page report within 30 days outlining the Fellowship experience and lessons learned. Reports should be submitted to Rhonda Schultz, Manager, Board and Fellowships, [rschultz@astmh.org](mailto:rschultz@astmh.org). Periodically, recipients may be invited to present their reports at the Society's Annual Meeting.

## Application Process and Requirements

Selection will be based on academic and/or research credentials, recommendations, proposal quality and the likelihood of the Fellowship to spur a career in tropical medicine. Preference will be given to applicants who are student [members](#) (\$15) of ASTMH. Please note that the Fellowship must be used in the awarded year.

Applicants are encouraged to gather all application materials prior to online submission. Although it is possible to edit the application prior to the deadline, the submission process will be smoother and more efficient if the complete application packet of materials is posted in one session.

### Application packet must include:

1. **Career interests:** A one-page (approximate) narrative describing:
  - Interest in tropical medicine (not to exceed 1,000 characters).
  - Prior overseas experience (not to exceed 500 characters).
  - Short- and long-term career objectives (not to exceed 500 characters).
2. **Curriculum vitae:** Information from CV related to education, training, work experience, prior research experience, any publications or abstracts, honors and awards.
3. **Letter of recommendation:** One letter of recommendation, submitted as a PDF or Word file, from a supervising faculty mentor from applicant's medical school.

Since it is not possible to set up and execute a research project that involves humans or animals in a few weeks, any student proposing to perform such research during the elective must be performing that work as part of an ongoing project.

If the applicant's project includes human or animal research, the letter of recommendation from the supervising faculty mentor must confirm that approvals are in place (or document that such approval is in process or will be sought) at both the home institution and the overseas site. If the project does not involve human or animal subjects, the letter of recommendation from the supervising faculty mentor should explain that approval for human or animal research is not applicable for the study.



I learned much more about severe malaria case management capacity than the literature could have taught me."

Dominique Earland, University of Minnesota  
Overseas site: Mozambique  
2022 Kean Fellow



## Applicant Responsibility

The submission site will prompt the applicant to provide the name, postal mail address, phone, fax and email for the supervising faculty mentor. The submission program will then generate an email to this individual with instructions to upload the letter to the application site. The supervising faculty mentor providing this letter of recommendation must upload the letter directly to the application site.

It is important that the applicant gather the contact information for the supervising faculty mentor prior to beginning the online submission.

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the mentor has received the email generated by the submission site and uploads the letter

- 1. Overseas mentor approval:** Written approval (submitted as a PDF or Word file) from a mentor who will be present at the overseas site during the elective (this person may be the same as the home medical school mentor if he/she will be on site for the elective). The applicant must obtain this document from the overseas mentor prior to posting to the online application.

**The applicant is responsible for uploading the overseas mentor approval letter to the application site.**

## 2. Elective proposal includes:

- Title of study/project
- Location of overseas site
- Dates and duration of elective
- Description of overseas site (not to exceed 500 characters)
- Specific objectives of elective (not to exceed 500 characters)
- For research projects, a brief description of rationale and significance, methods and anticipated challenges and opportunities (not to exceed 2,000 characters)
- For clinical projects, a brief description of clinical activities and responsibilities (not to exceed 2,000 characters)
- Description of applicant's role in the project (not to exceed 500 characters)
- A brief COVID-19 contingency plan.



Without the help of ASTMH, projects like the one that I am pursuing would not be possible and I am forever grateful for the opportunity."

Jared Alswang, Harvard Medical School  
Overseas site: Tanzania  
2022 Kean Fellow

