CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS

AWARD: $50,000

Application Deadline: March 14, 2024

In partnership with the
Bill & Melinda Gates foundation
About the Alan J. Magill Fellowship

The Alan J. Magill Fellowship was created by the ASTMH Board of Directors in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to honor the life, example and legacy of Alan J. Magill, MD, FASTMH, a widely recognized and respected leader in the global tropical medicine community.

The Magill Fellowship will provide funding of $50,000 USD for a period of up to two years to one recipient to support mentorship, career and/or leadership development projects for ASTMH members in the early-to-middle stage of mid-career in low/low-middle income countries focusing on leadership development in tropical medicine. Magill Fellows will work closely with a mentor (ideally an ASTMH member) who will play a prominent role in the development and execution of the Fellow’s two-year plan of activities.

Through a competitive process, the Fellowship will recognize outstanding work in tropical medicine research, clinical care or advocacy—all prominent roles in Alan Magill’s life—conducted by a Society member who lives in and is a citizen of a low/low-middle income country. While the award will recognize achievement in tropical medicine, it is not intended to extend current research or clinical activities. Instead, it is designed to support career-broadening experiences to enhance professional development and leadership opportunities beyond those traditionally available from within the applicant’s home organization—and in so doing, equip awardees to later assume leadership and mentoring roles in various aspects of tropical medicine.
Fellowship At-A-Glance

- One Fellowship annually of $50,000 US for a period of up to two years to support a mentorship and career/leadership development project in tropical medicine research, clinical care or advocacy.
- Available only to citizens and legal residents of low/low-middle income countries who are ASTMH members.
- Applicants must be in the early-to-middle stage of their mid-career. The successful applicant will have experience in the workplace with clinical work and/or scientific investigations.
- Applicants must identify a mentor for the proposed activities.
- Notice of Fellowship award in early August 2024.

2023 Magill Fellow
Issiaka Soulama, PharmD, PhD
Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS)
Burkina Faso

2022 Magill Fellow
Fitsum Girma Tadesse, PhD
Armauer Hansen Research Institute (AHRI)
Ethiopia

Reason and fairness, coupled with deep compassion, drove Alan’s commitment to fight the human misery that is malaria.”

Walter Reed Medal
Awarded posthumously to Alan J. Magill in 2015.

ASTMH’s Walter Reed medal (left), awarded posthumously to Alan J. Magill in 2015 in recognition of his distinguished accomplishments in the field of tropical medicine.
Alan J. Magill Fellowship

Alan J. Magill Fellowship: Supporting Career-Broadening and Leadership-Building Experiences

The Alan J. Magill Fellowship is designed to support career-broadening and leadership-building experiences organized by the applicant. In addition, the Fellowship will require participation with ASTMH (see below). Applicants are encouraged to think beyond their current sphere and be open to growth opportunities. Examples could include but are not limited to:

- Expanded participation at ASTMH meetings and scientific committees.
- Defined internship(s) at key global health institutions* focused on important aspects of tropical medicine research and/or policy.
- Tropical medicine leadership, management or advocacy coursework.
- Participation in relevant international conferences and meetings and/or other suitable learning activities that would be proposed as part of the Fellowship application.
- Courses in public policy, bioethics, economics and health finance, principles of system design, biostatistics, epidemiology, advocacy, business/management/leadership, etc.

*Appropriate training institutions include but are not limited to international agencies, e.g., World Health Organization, World Bank; Ministries of Health or other governmental health agencies; or non-governmental organizations, foundations, product development partners, advocacy organizations, think tanks or private/for-profit companies involved in studying, treating or preventing tropical diseases.

He loved to ponder new ideas, and their meaning.”
Alan J. Magill Fellowship

Eligibility

- Open only to ASTMH members who are citizens and legal residents of a low/low-middle income country as determined by the World Bank and WHO/Hinari. Not a member? Join now for $25.
- Early-to-middle stage of mid-career. The successful applicant will have experience in the workplace with clinical work and/or scientific investigations.
- A Master’s degree or higher is desired for applicants whose education has focused on advocacy and policy rather than scientific research or clinical care.
- MD, MBBS, DDS, DVM or PhD-level degree.
- Mentor required (member of ASTMH encouraged but not required). The mentor will help the applicant plan and carry out the proposed Fellowship activities. The mentor is not required to work at the same organization/institution as the applicant or to directly supervise the proposed Fellowship activity.
- Applicant and mentor are responsible for planning the proposed Fellowship activity and securing agreement from participating/hosting institutions.

“[He was] insightful, committed, encouraging, and acutely aware that to make a difference in this world, one must lay out bold visions and pursue them relentlessly...”
Alan J. Magill Fellowship

Application Process

1. Submission of a Concept Paper
   The application process requires an initial submission of a Concept Paper. [SUBMIT HERE]

   All submitted Concept Papers will be reviewed by the committee according to the published criteria. Upon review,
   submissions determined by the committee to meet the criteria and best align with the life of example set by Alan
   Magill will be invited to submit a full Proposal.

   Concept Paper must be a maximum of 3,500 characters (including spaces) and include:
   - Brief summary of activities with approximate timelines.
   - An overview of how the anticipated experiences gained through the Fellowship, as well as the working
     relationship with the mentor, will enhance career development in tropical medicine and facilitate transition
     to a career focused on the areas of research, clinical care or advocacy.
   - How the applicant will interact on a regular basis with the mentor.
   - High-level overview of the expected costs to be incurred during the Fellowship period. Note: Up to 5% of the
     Fellowship can be used for indirect funds of the primary institution/organization associated with the applicant.

2. Letter of Support and Curriculum Vitae from Applicant’s Mentor
   (Ideally an ASTMH member; however, non-membership will not negatively impact the potential for selection)

   The purpose of this letter is not solely to provide a recommendation of the applicant, but also to outline a
   prospective plan with measurable milestones, reflective of achievement for career-broadening experiences.

   Applicant's mentor must be a constant influence throughout the duration of the Fellowship period.

   The mentor’s letter should include:
   - Details of the applicant’s qualifications.
   - The career trajectory of the applicant and an explanation of how the funding will support their
     career development.
   - Description of the promise of the proposed candidate, their leadership potential and their work. In addition,
     post-Fellowship, could there be an expectation of hosting the applicant in a leadership position?
   - A description of the mentor’s experience in mentoring colleagues in the field of tropical medicine and
     public health.
   - Detailed plans for regular mentoring and overall institutional/organizational commitment if appropriate.
   - A maximum length of three pages (this page count does NOT include the mentor’s CV).
Alan J. Magill Fellowship

Application Process, continued

3. Applicant’s Biographical Information required:
   - Date/place of birth/citizenship/visa status.
   - Education: schools, dates and degrees earned (e.g., NIH biosketch).
   - Medical residency, if applicable.
   - Post-doctoral Fellowships, if applicable.
   - Other training, if applicable.
   - Chronological listing of employment experience and honors.
   - Titles, authors and complete references to all publications, if applicable.

[View the list of eligible low/low-middle income countries.]

Applicant must upload the mentor’s letter of support and the mentor’s curriculum vitae to the application site.

“I’m proud of our Foundation’s new partnership with ASTMH that will honor Alan’s memory and advance the cause he championed.”

— Melinda Gates

Application Checklist

- Concept Paper – SUBMIT HERE
- ASTMH Membership (Join Here)
- Biographical Information
- Letter of Support from Applicant’s Mentor
- Mentor’s CV

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Alan J. Magill Fellowship

Selection Criteria

The Fellowship recipient will embody the values represented by Alan Magill: rigorous academic excellence, intellectual curiosity and commitment to a common lofty goal that contributes to reducing the burden of tropical diseases on humankind.

Magill Fellows will have an expectation of a long-term commitment to the global tropical medicine field demonstrated in part through continued active engagement with ASTMH, including sharing lessons learned and participation in Society events and activities.

Concept Paper will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Does Concept Paper align with the goals of the Fellowship?
- Potential of this Fellowship to influence the applicant’s career trajectory and leadership potential.
- Excellence and promise of the proposed applicant and their work:
  - Viability of outlined concept.
  - Practicality of outlined concept.
  - Feasibility of outlined concept.
  - Is the outlined concept realistic and achievable within the two-year timeframe?
- Relevance of the outlined concept to the leadership qualities and experience of Alan Magill in the fields of tropical medicine research, clinical care or advocacy.
- Excellence, experience and commitment of applicant’s mentor as identified in the supporting letter.
- Commitment from the applicant, mentor and institution(s).
- Is the role of the mentor appropriate given the outlined concept?

Funding

- The Fellowship is a $50,000 US award designed to cover all related expenses during the two-year timeframe. These expenses include but are not limited to travel, stipend, health insurance, registration fees, hotel, visas, food and ground transportation. The Fellowship does not cover expenses such as entertainment.
- The Fellowship allows for organizations/institutions to allocate up to 5% of Fellowship funds for indirect costs.

“[He had] balanced, unbiased perspective and calm, straightforward manner…”

“He quietly, yet actively inspired the best in those around him…”
Alan J. Magill Fellowship Committee

Chair, Sarah K. Volkman, ScD, FASTMH
Principal Research Scientist
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Janiine Babcock, MD
Clinical Professor
Seattle Children's Hospital

Bruno Moonen, MD, MSc*
Deputy Director for Malaria
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
(*non-voting)

Mame Khouredia Niang MD, MPH
President's Malaria Initiative Resident Advisor
CDC

Nicanor Obaldia, III, DVM, MS, DScPH, FASTMH
Senior Investigator
Gorgas Memorial Institute of Health Studies

Christina S. Polyak, MD, MPH
Medical Team Lead
PATH

Douglas Postels, MD, MS
Associate Professor of Pediatric Neurology
George Washington University/Children's National Medical Center

Larry Slutsker, MD, MPH, FASTMH
Senior Technical Advisor Director
Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases & Center for Malaria Control and Elimination
PATH

Joseph Wagman, PhD
Senior Program Officer
Center for Malaria Control and Elimination
PATH

Norman C. Waters, PhD, FASTMH
Colonel, Medical Service Corps
Department of Bacterial and Parasitic Diseases
Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences

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