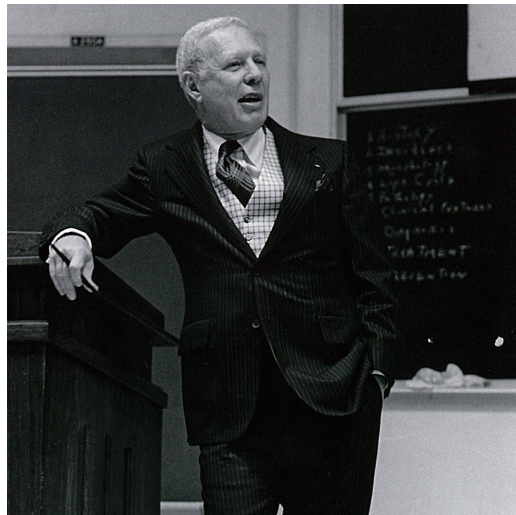
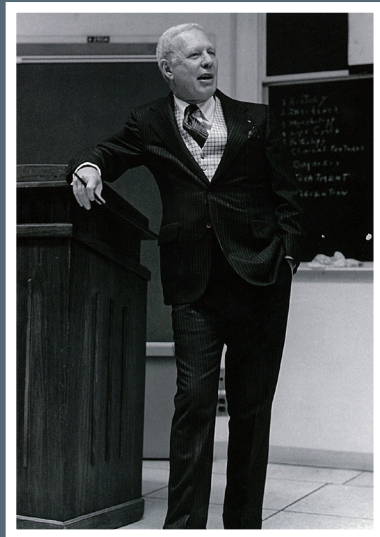


Benjamin H. Kean

Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine



Application Deadline:
March 10, 2021



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 site endemic for diseases or illnesses common in the tropics
- We continue to monitor the global situation regarding the spread of COVID-19 and the impact this will likely have on your proposed project. Because of this, the Committee asks that you provide a brief COVID contingency plan as part of your application.
- Elective must begin after June 1, 2021
- Fellowship includes:
 - ▶ Round-trip coach airfare
 - ▶ \$1,000 USD stipend to offset additional travel expenses
 - ▶ Complimentary meeting registration to the 2021 Annual Meeting
- **Preference given to ASTMH student member (\$15 annual dues)**
- Notice of selection in late April 2021

Application Deadline:
March 10, 2021

**Total number of Kean
Fellows to date:
321 (since 1998)**

Award Notice

Applicants will be notified of fellowship decisions in late April 2021.

Open to full-time medical students in accredited schools of medicine in the United States or Canada.
Application Deadline: March 10, 2021

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 endemic for diseases or illnesses common in the tropics, starting after June 1, 2021.

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, [see 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 USD stipend to offset additional travel expenses
- Complimentary meeting registration to the 2021 Annual Meeting

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, 2021
- Applications indicating less than one month at the tropical 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. Periodically, recipients may be invited to present their reports at the Society's Annual Meeting.

2020 Fellowship Recipients and Overseas Study Locations



Robertha Barnes
SUNY Upstate Medical University,
United States



Thailand



Kimberly Burke
University of Massachusetts Medical School,
United States



Liberia



Rebecca Carpenter
Cedarville University,
United States



Bangladesh



Michael Cheung
Jacobs School of Medicine at University
at Buffalo, United States



Peru



Spencer Darveau
Brown University, United States



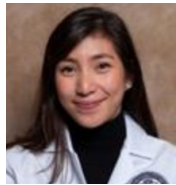
Philippines



Samantha Herbert
Tulane University School of Public
Health and Tropical Medicine,
United States



Cambodia



Antoinette Montelibano
University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine,
United States



Philippines



Perneet Powar
California Northstate University,
United States



Malaysia



Sabahat Rahman
University of California,
San Francisco, United States



Liberia



Christopher Reynolds
University of Michigan Medical School,
United States



Liberia



Toni San Miguel
University of Maryland School of Medicine,
United States



Nigeria



Alison Smith
Emory University School of Medicine,
United States



Ethiopia



Mariame Sylla
Amherst College, United States



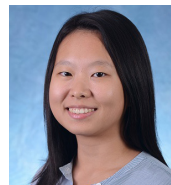
Guinea



Rebeca Vergara Greeno
Yale School of Medicine, United States



Guatemala



Erin Xu
University of North Carolina School of
Medicine, United States



Uganda

For the complete list
of recipients please
visit our [website](#)

Application Process and Requirements

Online application site opens February 10, 2021. [Submit your application here.](#)

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. Applicants will be notified in late April 2021 of final selections. 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 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.

- 4.** We continue to monitor the global situation regarding the spread of COVID-19 and the impact this will likely have on your proposed project. Because of this, the Committee asks that you provide a brief COVID contingency plan as part of your application.

“

Thanks to the opportunity that the Ben Kean Fellowship provided, I got involved in fieldwork, made mistakes, learned new things, and experienced what it takes to work in global health.”

Eve Ameen, Stony Brook School of Medicine
Overseas site, Peru
2019 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 by the March 10 deadline. After March 10, any application without the required letter of recommendation will be disqualified.

- 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)
- COVID-19 may have an impact on your proposed project. Provide a brief COVID-19 contingency plan.



The opportunity to see the delivery of care and the implementation of research projects firsthand provided me with a more nuanced perspective of global health and research in tropical medicine."

Mary Gwin, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Overseas site, Malawi
2019 Kean Fellow



Applicant Checklist

- ☐ Career interests narrative
- ☐ CV information
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from supervising faculty mentor, including mentor confirmation of approval for human or animal research on behalf of both the home institution and overseas institution
- ☐ Overseas mentor approval letter
- ☐ Elective proposal
- ☐ COVID-19 contingency plan
- ☐ **Preference given to ASTMH student members (\$15)**

Finalizing the Application

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

Notice of Fellowship Award

Fellowship award notices will be sent late April 2021.

Travel Arrangements

The Fellowship includes funding for a direct round-trip ticket to and from the overseas location indicated in the accepted application proposal.

ASTMH will also provide a \$1,000 USD stipend to offset living expenses. ASTMH does not reimburse costs for research expenses.

Questions about online application process:
Contact **Rhonda Schultz**
Manager, Board & Fellowships
rschultz@astmh.org

Application timeline:
Application opens: February 10
Applications due: March 10
Notices sent in late April

Kean Fellowship Committee

Chair, A. Desiree LaBeaud, MD, MS
Stanford University

Arlene Dent, MD, PhD
Case Western Reserve University

Miriam Laufer, MD, MPH
University of Maryland

Paul West Okojie, MD
Liberty University

Juan Marcelo Perez Velazquez, MD
University of Massachusetts Memorial
Medical Center

Christina S. Polyak, MD, MPH
Military HIV Research Program, WRAIR

Paul Robben, MD, PhD
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Michael Sikorski, MD
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Indi Trehan MD, MPH, DTM&H
Lao Friends Hospital for Children

Paige Waterman, MD
WRAIR



The support of the fellowship has granted me the chance to experience hands-on field research in the Philippines, working with patients, physicians, researchers, and community members.”

*Alice Huang, The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University
Overseas site, Philippines
2019 Kean Fellow*

