Robert E. Shope
International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

AWARD: $25,000

Open to full-time post-doctoral fellows (PhD, DVM, MD or the equivalent) with positions at accredited North American institutions who study any tropical infectious disease in arbovirology and/or emerging tropical infectious diseases.

Application Deadline: July 29, 2022
About Robert E. Shope and the Shope International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases

Robert E. Shope, MD (1929 – 2004), devoted his career to the study of viruses carried by mosquitoes, ticks and other biting insects. One of the world’s foremost authorities on insect-borne viruses, he discovered and characterized more previously unknown viruses than any other person in history. He was often called a “walking encyclopedia” of viruses who made major contributions to the understanding of infectious diseases and the promotion of global health. His lifelong contributions to the understanding of arthropod-borne viruses, hemorrhagic fever viruses and the diseases they cause are unparalleled.

Dr. Shope was a clinician, virologist, epidemiologist and more. In 2005, to honor Dr. Shope, a past president and beloved member, the Society established a Fellowship in his name—The Robert E. Shope International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases. The Fellowship honors his significant contributions in the areas of arbovirology and emerging infectious diseases. Recipients inspired by Dr. Shope will involve themselves in studies of arbovirology and/or emerging diseases from clinical to field to laboratory studies.

The Fellowship provides support for international training opportunities in arbovirology and emerging diseases for those with an MD, DVM, PhD or the equivalent from an accredited U.S. or Canadian institution.

Shope Fellowship At-A-Glance

- Open to full-time post-doctoral fellows (PhD, DVM, MD or the equivalent) with positions at accredited North American institutions who study any tropical infectious disease in arbovirology and/or emerging tropical infectious diseases
- Short-term but substantial research experience in the tropics
- Financial support of $25,000 to help defray travel costs, living expenses and/or research abroad
- Projects must begin after August 1, 2022
- Preference given to ASTMH post-doc/medical/resident/fellow members
- Notice of award in late-September

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2021 Shope Fellowship Recipient and Overseas Study Location

Keli Gerken, DVM
Stanford University School of Medicine

Urban Rift Valley Fever Virus as a New Ecological Niche: Continuous Introduction from Animal Products

Kenya

“...The chance to live in Kenya, develop field skills, and learn new diagnostic skills will help me grow into a field epidemiologist that has a practical perspective, global network, and sees the value in putting the needs of the community at the center of my future research.”

Keli Gerken, DVM

Eligibility

- The Shope Fellowship Committee selects candidates based on:
  - Academic credentials
  - Recommendations
  - Quality of the research proposal
  - Feasibility of completing the project
  - Potential for enhancing international collaborative possibilities
  - Demonstration of serious career interest in international research in tropical infectious diseases

- Although projects addressing any arbovirus and/or emerging tropical infectious disease will be considered for award, priority will be given to those proposals focused on research topics involving arboviral diseases. Projects are expected to involve work that can only be performed at the tropical site. Projects that involve work at a modern lab that could be anywhere in the U.S. will be given low priority.

- Full-time post-doctoral fellows (PhD, DVM, MD or the equivalent) with positions at accredited North American institutions (institutions may be academic, government or NGO as long as the project and institute meet the requirements of the fellowship) who study any tropical infectious disease in arbovirology and/or emerging tropical infectious diseases.

Timeline

- Application site opens: JULY 1, 2022
- Application deadline: JULY 29, 2022
- Notice of award: LATE SEPTEMBER 2022
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Eligibility (cont.)

- Co-mentors must be identified at the North American institution and at the international institution or site in the tropics.
- Sponsoring North American and international institutions are responsible for ensuring that the proposed studies are compliant with contemporary regulations, including those related to human subjects and pathogens.
- Projects must begin after August 1, 2022.
- Preference will be given to:
  - Applicants with post-doctoral/medical resident/fellow membership in ASTMH ($25 annual dues)
  - Applicants sponsored by an ASTMH member
  - Applications focused on arbovirology and studies of related pathogens

Funding

Financial support of $25,000 for a short-term research experience in the tropics. The funding is to help defray travel costs, living expenses and/or research abroad. Applicants will be notified of decisions late September 2022.

Application

The application will be available online on July 1, 2022.

Support from the ASTMH Shope Fellowship will assist in further development of my collaborative skills with international colleagues, and help further define my career path as a public health veterinarian specializing in the study of arboviruses.

Anna Fagre, DVM, MPH
2019 Shope Fellowship recipient,
Colorado State University
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 29 deadline, the submission process will be smoother and more efficient if the complete application packet is posted in one session.

**Application packet must include:**

1. **Curriculum vitae**
   - Information from CV regarding education, training, work experience, prior research experience, publications or abstracts, honors and awards. Applicant must also indicate institutional affiliation, department and specialty, if applicable, and student status.

2. **Research plan and career interests**
   - Summary of interest in this work and career interests (max. 1,500 characters)
   - Description of how this fellowship will enhance career development in tropical medicine
   - Scientific objectives of the project (max. 1,000 characters)
   - Expected outcomes (max. 1,000 characters)
   - Roles of the North American and international co-mentors (max. 1,000 characters)
   - Explanation of how this experience will enhance international research collaborations (max. 1,000 characters)
   - Description of international work activities and the applicant’s role in those activities

3. **Three letters of recommendation**
   - Three total letters of recommendation are required, submitted as PDF or Word files on institutional letterhead from:
     - North American faculty co-mentor
     - Overseas research co-mentor
     - Current or former teacher or supervisor who can attest to applicant’s academic and/or research abilities and potential

After July 29, applications without the required three letters of recommendation will be disqualified.

“As an aspiring arbovirologist, it was such an exciting experience to have my interests and passions in arboviral research recognized by the Shope Fellowship Committee.”

Desiree LaBeaud, MD, MS  
2008 Shope Fellowship recipient,  
2018 ACAV Chair, current Board member
Robert E. Shope International Fellowship in Infectious Diseases

Applicant Responsibility: Letters of Recommendation
The application site will prompt the applicant to provide the name, mailing address, phone, fax and email for each of the people providing letters of recommendation. The application program 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 submission. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that each individual has received the email generated by the submission site and has uploaded their respective letters by the May 5 deadline.

Regulatory Compliance Documentation
- A letter from an appropriate authority from the 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, pathogenic organisms 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, pathogenic organisms and other applicable regulatory issues.

Applicant Responsibility: Regulatory Compliance
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, applicant should 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. 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 Shope Fellowship Committee.

Application Checklist
- CV information
- Research plan
- Career interests narratives
- Recommendation letter from North American co-mentor
- Recommendation letter from overseas co-mentor
- Recommendation letter from teacher or supervisor
- Regulatory compliance documentation
- Applicant photo (2” x 2”.jpg file, head shot preferred)

Deadline:
July 29, 2022
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Award Administration
Award will be made to the applicant’s home institution, which will be responsible for administering this fellowship. Home institution and overseas institution must certify that planned studies are fully compliant with human subjects, pathogen and other regulatory issues. No institutional overhead will be provided.

Final Report
Fellowship recipients are required to submit a maximum 10-page report within 30 days of completion of the project outlining the fellowship experience and lessons learned. A report template will be provided at the end of the project. Periodically, recipients may be invited to present their reports at the Annual Meeting.

Committee Service
Fellowship recipient will be asked to serve on the Shope Fellowship Committee for one year following completion of the funded research effort.

Notice of Fellowship Award
Fellowship award notices will be sent in late September 2022

Shope Fellowship Committee
Ann Powers, PhD, FASTMH, Chair
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Charles Calisher, PhD
Colorado State University

Eric Mossel, PhD
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Richard Shope, III
Loyola Marymount University

Thomas Yuill, PhD, FASTMH
University of Wisconsin

Questions about online application process:
Rhonda Schultz
Manager, Board and Fellowships
Direct: +1-703-650-5831
Fax: +1-571-351-5422
rschultz@astmh.org
Shope Fellows and Overseas Study Locations

**Keli Gerken, DVM, 2021**
Stanford University School of Medicine
Kenya

**Maria Onyango, PhD, 2020**
New York State Department of Health
Kenya

**Anna Fagre, DVM, MPH, 2019**
Colorado State University
Uganda

**Cameron Myhrvold, 2018**
Stanford University School of Medicine
Honduras

**Amy Krystosik, 2017**
Stanford University School of Medicine
Kenya

**Kayla Barnes, 2016**
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard
Brazil

**Claire Heath, 2015**
Stanford University
West Indies

**Jesse Waggoner, 2013**
Stanford University
Zimbabwe

**Gillian Eastwood, 2012**
Wadsworth Center of New York State Department of Health
Panama

**Jonathan Auguste, 2011**
University of Texas Medical Branch
West Indies

**Steven Hatch, 2010**
University of Massachusetts
Colombia

**Sarah Billeter, 2010**
CDC
Thailand

**Sansanee Noisakran, 2009**
Emory University
Thailand

**Andrew Haddow, 2009**
University of Texas Medical Branch
Senegal

**Desiree LaBeaud, 2008**
Case Western Reserve University
Kenya

**Rebekah Kent, 2007**
CDC
Guatemala