



## Fogarty Global Health Training Program

A Consortium of Harvard University, Boston University, Northwestern University, and University of New Mexico

# HBNU FOGARTY GLOBAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM

Fall 2022 Newsletter

## About the HBNU Fogarty Global Health Program

The HBNU Fogarty Global Health Training Program provides mentored research opportunities designed to train and prepare a new cadre of health professionals in the United States (U.S.) and low and middle-income countries (LMICs) for careers in research, health services, and academia. The Program aims to enhance the trainees' ability to independently plan, implement, and assess innovative clinical or operations research addressing major global health challenges. Fellows in the Program spend at least 11 months at one of HBNU's collaborating research sites across Africa, Asia, and South America. For more information, please visit [the HBNU website](#).

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# The Application for the 2023-2024 Cohort is Now Open

The 2023-2024 application for the HBNU Fogarty Global Health Training Program is now open. The program provides year-long mentored global health research fellowships for doctoral and post-doctoral candidates from the U.S. and low-and-middle income countries. Trainees in the program participate in a one-year fellowship at one of HBNU's sites in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Research training areas include: HIV/AIDS, Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition, Mental Health, Noncommunicable Disease including Cardiovascular Health, and other priority areas aligned with NIH's institutes and centers. The deadline to apply has been extended to **November 15th, 2022**. Interested candidates can learn more about the fellowship and begin their application on our [website](#).



## Fogarty Global Health Training Program

Harvard University Boston University Northwestern University University of New Mexico



### Key Information

- Fellowship opportunities are available at 20 sites in 14 countries in Africa, Asia, and South America.
- The fellowship includes research funding, a stipend, health insurance, and a round-trip ticket to your research site, depending on the type of award.
- Appointments begin July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023.
- The fellowship starts with a week-long orientation at the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland.

### Eligible Applicants

- U.S. pre-doctoral candidates currently enrolled in doctoral programs in medicine, biomedical sciences, public health, government, business, design, engineering, education, nutrition, law, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and nursing.
- U.S. or LMIC postdoctoral candidates with an advanced doctoral degree in medicine, biomedical sciences, public health, engineering, government, business, design, education, nutrition, law, pharmacy, dentistry, veterinary medicine, and nursing.
  - Note: LMIC candidates must be citizens of a country with a partner site.
- U.S. postdoctoral candidates completing residency or a clinical fellowship program.

## HBNU Fogarty Global Health Training Program

### 2023-2024 Fellowship Year

The Fogarty Global Health Training Program provides one-year mentored research opportunities in low and middle-income countries (LMICs) for pre- and post-doctoral candidates from the U.S. and LMICs. This program is sponsored by the Fogarty International Center (FIC) and several collaborating Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

The program supports research in areas of interest, including: HIV/AIDS, non-communicable diseases, mental health, maternal and child health and nutrition, and more.

**The application deadline for the 2023-2024 fellowship year has now been extended to November 15th, 2022**

Apply online at <https://sites.sph.harvard.edu/global-health-research-partnership/apply/>

### Research Sites:



## Info Session Webinar

The HBNU Fogarty Global Health Training Program held its information session webinar on Monday, September 12th, 2022. During the session, program PIs provided an overview of the program and application process. In addition, two recent alumni described their fellowship experiences and shared more about their individual research projects. Audience members were able to ask questions about the fellowship, resulting in an engaging discussion about the fellowship. A link to the recording can be found [here](#).

## Fellowship Overview



HBNU 2019-2020 fellows at NIH orientation

The Program supports capacity-building in LMICs and the United States by training the next generation of global health researchers, educators, and professionals to address the world's most pressing global health challenges.

The Program provides 12-month, mentored research opportunities for pre- and post-doctoral fellows dedicated to research, health services, and academic careers.

## 2022 Fogarty Global Health Program Orientation Recap

The Fogarty Global Health Program Y6 Orientation took place the week of July 11th, 2022. The Fogarty community, including this year's trainees, mentors, PIs and alumni were able to join together virtually as we began the 2022-2023 Fogarty year. Our HBNU trainees were able to join valuable sessions, including fireside chats with Fogarty International Center Director, Dr. Roger Glass, and a keynote presentation by Dr. Anthony Fauci.

During this week-long orientation, our HBNU trainees listened to presentations on a wide range of topics, such as Gender and Global Health, Mentorship and Cultural Considerations, and Decolonizing Global Health. Trainees were placed into break out rooms throughout the virtual orientation, and were able to engage in important dialogue with other HBNU trainees, fellows from other FIC consortia, and representatives from FIC institutes and centers.

## 2022 Mentoring Workshop

After hosting a virtual Mentorship Symposium in June 2021, the NIH-funded, HBNU Fogarty Global Health Training Program hosted an in-person workshop in May 2022 in Cape Town, South Africa for mentors. The theme of the Cape Town-based workshop was "Mentoring the Mentors" and was comprised of two full days of competency-based training material, including case examples of successful country mentorship programs, panel discussions, and small group skill-based activities. Topics included tools for professional development, strengthening communication and conflict resolution, virtual mentoring in the COVID-19 pandemic, capacity-building, and ethical considerations for effective mentorship.



# Introducing the 2022-2023 Cohort

## Botswana

### Gaerolwe Masheto, MD



Dr. Gaerolwe Masheto started working at Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute (BHP) Clinical Trial Unit (CTU) in 2011 as a Study Physician and has worked with a team that has successfully conducted International Maternal, Paediatric, Adolescents AIDS Clinical Trials (IMPAACT), AIDS Clinical Trials (ACTG) and HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) clinical trials. Currently, Dr. Masheto is the CTU Coordinator, IMPAACT Network Project Leader/Principal Investigator (PI), and Molepolole Clinical Research Site Leader. Dr. Masheto is also a Co-Investigator for ACTG and HPTN studies. He graduated from Ross University School of Medicine in 2007, and from Stellenbosch University in 2012 with a Post Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine. Dr. Masheto will spend his fellowship year at Botswana Harvard AIDS Institute under the mentorship of Shahin Lockman and Sikhuile Moyo. His project is titled, "Post-acute sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 infection (PASC) / 'Long COVID': Pediatric Observational Cohort: "Motlhala" Study."

## Ghana

### Chris Guure, MS, PhD



Dr. Chris Guure is a researcher and consultant with over eight years of experience. He holds a PhD in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, and is currently a senior lecturer with the Department of Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Ghana. Dr. Guure has worked for various international and national organizations including World Health Organization (WHO), Ghana AIDS Commission, Ghana Health Service, USAID and Alliance for Reproductive Health Rights and others. He has extensive experience working in a number of areas such as; HIV/AIDs, malaria, maternal and child health, poor and the vulnerable, cancer, diabetes, hypertension, tuberculosis as well as cognitive decline, dementia and its subtypes among older folks. Dr. Guure will spend his fellowship year at the West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP) under the mentorship of Christy Denkcla and Ernest Maya. His project is titled, "Nurses' attitudes towards bereavement support and its effect on families with perinatal loss in Ghana."

### Daniel Oduro-Mensah, MPhil, PhD



Dr. Daniel Oduro-Mensah is a Ghanaian biochemist and academic. He teaches biochemistry at the University of Ghana, is a PI at the West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens, and is an Academic Partner of the African Centre of Excellence for Mycotoxin and Food Safety, FUT-Minna, Nigeria. Some of his on-going research efforts in natural products biochemistry are designed to contribute to the understanding and management of inflammation-related chronic health conditions, with current focus on RNA virus diseases and pathogen-associated inflammatory sequelae. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Oduro-Mensah has been involved in several research initiatives and outreach programs related to the pandemic and has adopted COVID-19 and long COVID as models for his research. Dr. Oduro-Mensah will spend his fellowship year at the West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens under the mentorship of Douglas J. Perkins, Osbourne Quaye, and Laud K. Okine. His project is title, "HIV/AIDS and HIV-associated cancers: Herb-drug interactions and potential CXCR4 antagonists of herbal origin."

## **Frederica Partey, MSc, PhD**



Dr. Frederica Partey will spend her fellowship year at the West African Centre for Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP), University of Ghana, under the mentorship of Gordon Awandare and Douglas J. Perkins. During her fellowship, she seeks to characterize the kinetics and longevity of SARS-CoV-2-specific humoral and cellular responses at baseline and after each dose of the ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (AZD1222) vaccine among Ghanaians. Her work will determine the vaccine efficacy amongst Ghanaian individuals with/without prior exposure to COVID-19 under non-controlled circumstances. Dr. Partey received her MSc from the University of Sheffield in 2011, and received her PhD in biochemistry from the University of Ghana in 2018.

## **Jerry Joe Harrison, MPhil, PhD**



Dr. Jerry Joe Harrison spent his early research career isolating and characterizing natural products from plants from which he birthed into the scientific community. During his MPhil research, he developed protocols and analyzed antimalarial drugs sold in Ghanaian pharmaceutical and chemical shops. During his Ph.D work, he designed protein constructs that enabled the expression, crystallization and the structure of the first retroviral Pol polyprotein, the protease-reverse transcriptase (PR-RT), of the prototype foamy virus. Dr. Harrison will spend his fellowship year at the West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP) under the mentorship of Gordon Awandare and Douglas J. Perkins. Dr. Harrison will be characterizing HIV-2 reverse transcriptase (RT)-nucleic acid and RT-nucleic acid-drug complexes that offer insights into the mechanism of catalysis, inhibition and resistance.

## **Kwabena Sarpong, MS, PhD**



Dr. Kwabena Sarpong will spend his fellowship year at WACCBIP, under the mentorship of Lydia Mosi and Douglas J. Perkins. His research will focus on the development of a laboratory-based reflexive algorithm for the identification of falciparum and non-falciparum species and its clinical utility in the diagnosis of malaria in Southern Ghana. The project will create a novel working algorithm for clinical practice by utilizing data from the performance characteristics of various malaria rapid diagnostic tests on the Ghanaian market and comparing that to microscopy and nucleic acid amplification tests. Dr. Sarpong received his PhD in Biochemistry from Washington University in St. Louis and completed a clinical chemistry fellowship at the University of Virginia.

## **Shameka Thomas, MA, PhD**



Dr. Shameka Poetry Thomas, is an early-career medical sociologist and reproductive health equity scientist. Dr. Thomas recently completed her postdoctoral fellowship at the National Institutes of Health, spending two-years as an intramural postdoctoral fellow / scientific investigator in the Health's Health Disparities Unit of the Social Behavioral Research Branch in the National Human Genomics Research Institute (NHGRI). As an HBNU-Fogarty global health fellow for Harvard University and University of Ghana-East Legon, Dr. Thomas will spend her fellowship year at the WACCBIP under the mentorship of Chris Sudfeld and Gordon Awandare. Her research focuses on reproductive health equity, narrative medicine, mixed methods, translational research, and sickle cell disease among Black women and teenage girls with rare blood disorders.

## Stephen Amoah, MPhil, PhD



Dr. Stephen Amoah is a lecturer in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, University of Cape Coast, Ghana. He will spend his fellowship year at West African Center for Cell Biology and Infectious Pathogens (WACCBIP), University of Ghana, under the mentorship of Gordon Awandare, Douglas J. Perkins, and Nikolaos Mellios. His research will focus on determining the effect of cocoa on neural noncoding genes such as circular RNAs and microRNAs during inflammation in rodent models of diabetes mellitus. Dr. Amoah's research goal is to investigate contributions of non-coding genes in the pathophysiology and management of neuropsychiatric and cardiometabolic disorders.

## Kenya

### Sarah Kituyi, MSc, PhD



Dr. Sarah Kituyi is a biochemistry lecturer at the University of Embu -Kenya where she teaches clinical biochemistry and supervise postgraduate research. She has a PhD in Biochemistry from Rhodes University, South Africa, and completed post-doctoral training in cancer biology at the same University. Her current research interests are in protein-protein interactions geared at elucidating interactions in hosts and vectors that influence disease prognosis and how these interactions can be regulated for the great goal of disease diagnosis and management. Dr. Kituyi 's project is titled, "Identification of the Cdc37 isoform in *P. falciparum* and it's role as a potential anti-malaria drug target." She will spend her fellowship year at Maseno University and School of Medicine under the mentorship of Douglas J. Perkins and Collins Ouma.

## Mali

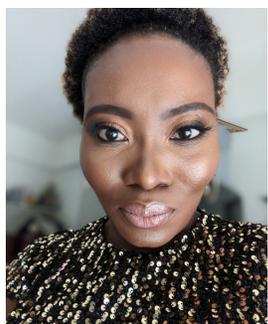
### Antieme Combo Georges Togo, MSc, MD



Dr. Antieme Togo will spend his fellowship year at the University of Sciences, Techniques and Technologies of Bamako (USTTB) under the mentorship of Bassirou Diarra and Mamoudou Maïga. Dr. Togo has worked as a research associate for eight years at the HIV/TB Research and Training Center (UCRC/SEREF0). He completed his PhD that focused on the development of new tools for the diagnosis and management of infectious diseases, specifically drug resistance in TB, and the early detection of resistance and mutation gene strategies. His project is titled " Immune Interaction between CMV and HIV/TB co-Infection in Bamako, Mali."

## Nigeria

### Deborah Dauda, MA, MPH



Deborah Chat Dauda is a Ph.D. candidate in the School for Global Inclusion and Social Development (SGISD) at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She holds Master's degrees in Public Health and African Studies from the University of California, Los Angeles. She is also a recipient of a Fulbright research award to Nigeria, a University of North Carolina Foreign Language and Area Studies Summer Fellow, and a recipient of the American Philosophical Society's Lewis and Clark fieldwork grant. Deborah will spend her fellowship year at the University of Jos and Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) in the Department of General and Applied Psychology under the mentorship of Haruna Karick and Christy Denckla. Her research will focus on the self-care practices and healing strategies of Bajju women with experiences of domestic violence in Southern Kaduna, Nigeria

## **Olukemi Ige, MBBS, MSc**



Dr. Olukemi Ige is an associate professor at the University of Jos and a consultant pediatrician at the Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) in Jos, Nigeria. She has been involved in collaborative research, including the global rheumatic heart disease registry (REMEDY) and understanding the genetics of the rheumatic heart disease (RHDgen). She has also received two seed awards that enabled her to carry out research in her area of interest. Presently, her primary research interest is investigating congenital cardiac anomalies and their association with neonatal/ infant morbidity and mortality. She will spend her fellowship year at JUTH, where she will be studying cardiac abnormalities in HIV exposed neonates under the mentorship of Phyllis Kanki and Atiene Sagay.

## **Yewande Adeyemo, MSc, BDS**



Dr. Yewande Adeyemo is an attending pediatric dentist with Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital. She graduated with a degree in Dental Surgery from the University of Ibadan. She's the immediate past Sub-Dean (Academics) of the Faculty of Dentistry, Bayero University, Kano, where she lectures 1st and 2nd year clinical students and consults with Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital. She will spend her fellowship year at Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital under the mentorship of Muktar Aliyu, Morenike Ukpong, Modupe Coker, Baba Maiyaki Musa, and Christine Riedy. She will focus on assessing the impact of an educational intervention program to improve the oral health of children living with HIV in Kano state, Nigeria.

## **Rwanda**

### **Alex Zhuang, MS**



Alex Zhuang is currently a fourth-year medical student at Boston University hoping to pursue a career in surgical oncology. He was born in Solon, Ohio and moved to Shanghai, China at the age of ten, where he completed his secondary education. He attended Boston College, where he studied biology, and has remained in Boston to pursue his medical degree. He is passionate about working at the intersection between public health and surgery, in both research and advocacy. He is also passionate about surgical quality improvement in both global and domestic contexts. He will complete his research, "Qualitative Assessment of Receptiveness, Facilitators, and Barriers to Clean Cut Implementation in Rwanda," at the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) under the mentorship of Abebe Bekele, Thomas Weiser, and David Hamer.

### **Barnabas Alayande, MBBS, MBA**



Dr. Barnabas Alayande will spend his fellowship year at the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE), Center for Equity in Global Surgery, Kigali, Rwanda, under the mentorship of Abebe Bekele and Robert Riviello. His research will focus on defining gaps in Bellwether procedural skills of recent medical graduates at Rwandan district hospitals, and determining Entrustable Professional Activities for the transition from medical school to district hospital surgical practice in the Rwandan context through the EnTRUST project. Dr. Alayande is a Global Surgery Fellow and General Surgeon with the Center for Equity in Global Surgery at UGHE, an assistant professor of Surgery with the University of Global Health Equity, and a former Paul Farmer Global Surgery Fellow with the Harvard Program in Global Surgery and Social Change.

## Sarah Nuss, BS



Sarah Nuss is an MD candidate at the Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University in Providence, RI. Sarah developed an interest in health equity through public health research in Peru and Costa Rica. She went on to work for Partners in Health in Chiapas, Mexico, where she became interested in global surgery systems strengthening. She serves as the Northeast Regional lead for the Global Surgery Student Alliance and is an active member of the Global Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Initiative. Sarah will spend her fellowship year at UGHE under the mentorship of Fred Kateera, Vincent Cubaka, and Bethany Hedt-Gauthier. Her project is titled "Increasing access to pediatric surgical care: Assessing district hospital readiness in Rwanda."

## South Africa

### Ian Mbano, Msc, PhD



Dr. Ian Mbano is a postdoctoral fellow at the Africa Health Research Institute (AHRI), working on a collaborative project involving the Ndung'u and Kwon Labs. His role involves managing an ongoing clinical study that is measuring the efficacy of a live biotherapeutic (LACTIN-V) intervention in reducing inflammation of the vaginal microbiome, which is associated with lower acquisition rates of sexually transmitted infections. Specifically, Dr. Mbano manages laboratory activities such as Flow cytometry, Luminex and 16S sequencing, which form the cornerstone of the LACTIN-V study. Dr. Mbano will spend his fellowship year at University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) under the mentorship of Douglas Kwon, Bruce Walker, and Thumbi Ndung'u. His project is titled "Assessing efficacy and vaginal microbiota dynamics in the FRESH LACTIN-V trial" in South Africa.

### Zolelwa Sifumba, MBChB



Dr. Zolelwa Sifumba is a medical doctor who qualified from The University of Cape Town in 2017 and completed her medical internship and community service in rural KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. Dr. Sifumba contracted Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis as a young medical student due to occupational exposure, and is now an activist and advocate contributing to the global fight against Tuberculosis. Her research interests focus on Subclinical TB. Dr. Sifumba will spend her fellowship year at UKZN under the mentorship of Ingrid Basset and Emily Wong, and her research proposal is titled "Linkage to care and 2-year outcomes for people with asymptomatic TB and TB/HIV: understanding the experience and care-seeking journey of patients diagnosed during community-based screening in rural KwaZulu-Natal."

## Tanzania

### Anna Tupetz, MScGH, PhD



Dr. Anna Tupetz is a Postdoctoral Associate with the Department of Surgery, Division of Emergency Medicine and the Global Emergency Medicine Innovation and Implementation Research Center at Duke University School of Medicine. She is a practicing Physical Therapist, trained in the Netherlands. Dr. Tupetz received her Doctorate in Physical Therapy, as well as an MSc in Global Health in the United States. Dr. Tupetz's research focuses on the challenges and factors that impact access to quality care from the patient as well as provider side, with special attention given to implementation research, qualitative studies, and intervention development designs. Dr. Tupetz will spend her fellowship year at Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center (KCMC) under the mentorship of Catherine Staton and Blandina Theophil Mmbaga.

## Ganga Moorthy, MD



Dr. Ganga Moorthy is a third year fellow in Pediatric Infectious Diseases and Global Health at Duke University. She completed her undergraduate and medical training at the University of Oklahoma and completed residency and chief residency at Duke. She is currently pursuing a Masters of Science in Global Health through the Duke Global Health Institute. Dr. Moorthy will spend her fellowship year at KCMC under the mentorship of Matt Rubach, Aisa Shayo, and Blandina Mmbaga. Her project will focus on the epidemiology and antibacterial resistance patterns of bloodstream isolates in neonatal sepsis and understanding the test characteristics of biomarkers for early identification of neonatal sepsis.

## Khanh Pham, MD



Dr. Khanh Pham is a board-certified internal medicine and infectious diseases physician at Weill Cornell in New York City. Dr. Pham will spend his fellowship year at Bugando Medical Center (BMC) under the mentorship of Jennifer Downs and Hyasinta Jaka. His research will examine the relationship between schistosomiasis, cardiovascular disease, and tuberculosis. His research efforts have been recognized several times, including receiving a Burroughs Wellcome Fund from the American Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene. He completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and then attended the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester. Dr. Pham later completed his Internal Medicine residency at Weill Cornell, where he continued to pursue his passion for helping underserved populations.

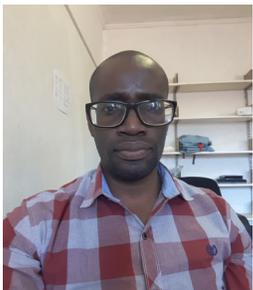
## Virginie Marchand, BS, BA



Virginie Marchand will be spending her fellowship year at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center under the mentorship of Melissa Watt, Blandina Theophil Mmbaga, and Susanna Cohen. Her research will focus on the implementation and evaluation of a training intervention for labor and delivery providers to address HIV stigma during childbirth. Virginie is a rising third year medical student at Duke University School of Medicine. She graduated *Cum Laude* from Duke with a BS in Biology and Global Health. Before beginning her medical education, she worked as a research coordinator at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, focusing on antimicrobial resistance policy and access to medicines advocacy.

## Zambia

### Stanley Zimba, MBChB, MMed



Dr. Stanley Zimba will spend his fellowship year at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia under the mentorship of Omar Siddiqi and Lloyd Mulenga. His research will focus on clinical characteristics, risk factors, and endothelial dysfunction in people with HIV and stroke in Zambia. Dr. Zimba is a consultant neurologist in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University Teaching Hospital in Lusaka, Zambia. He is a budding researcher whose career goal is to contribute to developing, evaluating, and implementing innovative and cost-effective interventions for the prevention and treatment of stroke in people with HIV in sub-Saharan Africa and globally.



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