



## Fogarty Global Health Training Program

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

# Spring 2023

## HBNU FOGARTY GLOBAL HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM

### Spring 2023 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](https://www.hbnu.org).

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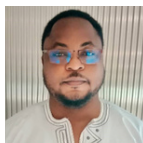
## 2022-2023 Cohort Update

Spread across 11 different sites in 9 different countries, the 2022-2023 cohort has had the opportunity to return to in-person activities following the last few years of the COVID-19 pandemic, and each fellow has made extensive progress on their research projects. The year-long fellowship projects of the Y6 cohort have focused on a variety of research areas, including HIV/AIDs and associated co-infections; non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as cardiovascular diseases and diabetes; mental health; and maternal and child health and nutrition (MCHN). We look forward to the important results that will come out of our fellow's research, and the continued engagement and collaboration between our fellows and their mentors.

### HBNU 2022-2023 Cohort



Gaerolwe Masheto,  
MD - Botswana



Chris Guure, MS, PhD -  
Ghana



Daniel Oduro-Mensah,  
MPhil, PhD - Ghana



Frederica Partey,  
MSc, PhD - Ghana



Jerry Joe Harrison,  
MPhil, PhD - Ghana



Kwabena Sarpong,  
MS, PhD - Ghana



Shameka Thomas,  
MA, PhD - Ghana



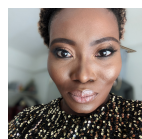
Stephan Amoah,  
MPhil, PhD - Ghana



Sarah Kituyi, MSc,  
PhD - Kenya



Antieme Combo Georges  
Togo, MSc, MD - Mali



Deborah Dauda, MA,  
MPH - Nigeria



Olukemi Ige, MBBS,  
MSc - Nigeria



Yewande Adeyemo,  
MSc, BDS - Nigeria



Alex Zhuang, MS -  
Rwanda



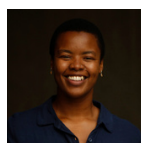
Barnabas Alayande,  
MBBS, MBA - Rwanda



Sarah Nuss, BS -  
Rwanda



Ian Mbano, MSc, PhD -  
South Africa



Zolelwa Sifumba,  
MBChB - South Africa



Anna Tupetz, MScGH,  
PhD - Tanzania



Ganga Moorthy, MD -  
Tanzania



Khanh Pham, MD -  
Tanzania



Virginie Marchand, BS,  
BA - Tanzania



Stanley Zimba, MBChB,  
MMed - Zambia



Fogarty Global Health  
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Harvard University  
Boston University  
Northwestern University  
University of New Mexico

## Deborah Dauda

2022-2023 scholar, Deborah Dauda is spending her Fogarty year in Nigeria conducting her dissertation research on the “Self-care and Healing Strategies of Bajju Women with Experiences of Domestic Violence.” Her study is transdisciplinary and employs a Transformative-Relational Sequential Exploratory Mixed Methods (TR-SEMM) design. Deborah works with Bajju communities in the Zangon Kataf and Jema’a Local Government Areas in Southern Kaduna, Northern Nigeria, documenting models of resilience, self-care, and healing practices utilized by minoritized groups living in a post-colonial and hegemonic context to achieve optimal psychosocial health. Based on the ongoing findings from the study, her research-community (respondents) are reporting burn-out and stressors related to their day-to-day experiences. As a result, Deborah’s Fogarty project now includes the implementation and evaluation of the ‘Self-care for Black Women’ training program— a crucial tool in an environment with limited opportunities and resources for mental health care. Deborah shares that, “offering the Self-care training allows my Fogarty research project to put into practice what we are learning on the field as we go, this way, we are being responsive to the needs of the community”.



Deborah's visit with Research Assistants to Sarc Salama Center Zone 3, Kafanchan

The data Deborah collects during her Fogarty program will contribute to the future development of a self-care index for psychosocial health for Black women that is grounded in Black/African feminist epistemologies and feminist standpoints. She plans to spend her NCE year teaching, writing, and publishing findings from her Fogarty research project.



Deborah Dauda with two-day residency training banner

On March 14, Deborah facilitated a workshop at the Survivors Support Forum for the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), providing psychosocial support training to survivors and their providers. She also conducted a two-day residency training in Kaduna from April 11-12, 2023, with 14 Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) survivors from two organizations in Kaduna: The Basileia Vulnerable Persons Rights Initiative (BVPRI) and the Sexual Assault Resource Center (SARC). The results from the evaluation of these workshops were overwhelmingly positive, with request to conduct additional trainings. Her LMIC Mentor, Dr. Haruna Karick in the Department of General and Applied Psychology at UNIJOS who also trains Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) workers for humanitarian missions praised the self-care program, stating that: “Self-care is an aspect that has not been given the appropriate attention...among humanitarian workers, who are supposed to provide such services to survivors. Your venturing into this is a wake-up call for more attention to self-care for both workers and survivors. More so, for women in Africa who should be seen and not heard”.

Likewise, her dissertation committee member, Dr. Olajumoke Yacob-Haliso, Associate Professor of African and African American Studies (AAAS) at Brandeis University shares that the self-care for Black women program “achieves some of the core objectives of the broader [Fogarty] project as a Black feminist contribution to not just scholarship but to transnational feminist praxis”.



# Research Symposium for Fogarty Fellows in East Africa

The "Research Symposium for Fogarty Fellows in East Africa" hosted by Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania between May 25th and 26th, 2023 was one of the first regional events for the most recent Fogarty cohorts to meet in person, share stories, and share ideas.

This regional meeting served as an excellent networking and skills building opportunity for current Fogarty fellows and alumni. The HBNU Program is honored to have been represented by Claudia Hawkins (PI at Northwestern University), Stanley Zimba (2022-2023 Trainee, Zambia), and Barnabas Alayande (2022-2023 Trainee, Rwanda). You can read more about Barnabas' and Stanley's experience down below:

## **Barnabas Alayande**

"Arriving at the airport at Dar es Salaam for the research symposium, I immediately sensed the bustling, core East African vibe of the city. I had met a Fogarty fellow from Uganda on the plane and it was wonderful to put a true face to the Zoom tile. The Eastern Africa Fogarty Fellows symposium was an amazing privilege to network with fellows, mentors and researchers within the region and see the valuable work that others from other consortia were doing. My specific interests were in the global surgery related projects, and I got connected with an innovative laparoscopy gamification program based in Tanzania, colorectal surgery projects, and a number of other projects focused on addressing concerns around global surgical care- the previously 'neglected step-child' of global health. I had the privilege of presenting work on The Rwanda Recent Medical Graduate Safe Surgery Project aimed at defining gaps in Bellwether procedural skills (cesarean-section, laparotomy, management of open fracture) of recent medical graduates at Rwandan district hospitals and defining Entrustable Professional Activities for the transition from medical school to district hospital surgical practice in the Rwandan context. I took away numerous hacks for keeping myself writing and focused on meaningful research through the vision of the Rhinoceros, the skill and strategy of the Cheetah, the accountability of the Buffalo, the leadership and mentorship of the Lion, and the persistence of the Elephant. I got more mentorship for an upcoming K award, and the intimate breakout sessions with faculty were truly meaningful. I would like to thank the NIH, the HBNU and the GloCal consortia for this amazing opportunity. Asante Sana!"



Barnabas Alayande and Stanley Zimba at the MUHAS symposium

## **Stanley Zimba**

"This was a well-organized event which was the first of its kind for HBNU fellows from East, Central and Southern Africa from year 2020 to 2022 to meet and share their research work and experiences. Since the fellows were at different stages of their fellowship journeys, it was a great opportunity to learn from each other, and network especially when in the same line of research or area of interest. It was also an opportunity to learn from their mentors about the long journey of a career in research. By far, my favorite presentation was on the "Big Five" which beautifully illustrated the need for early career researchers to be focused, adapt and remain resolute in research. Although the time given to share our research work was short, we were all given an opportunity to present our research work with constructive criticism given afterwards. I presented my study on the clinical characteristics, risk factors and endothelial dysfunction in people with HIV and stroke in Zambia. I was happy with the interest my presentation stimulated within the audience and the feedback I got as it added value to and emphasized the importance of my research work in filling up the gap that exists in research as well as its clinical relevance of my study in helping people with HIV. I applaud MUHAS and NIH for hosting this important event. Thank you!"



Precious Akanyirige

## Precious Akanyirige

***HBNU Fogarty Fellow (2021-2022), Precious Akanyirige, has been awarded the 2023 Excellence in Public Health Award, given by the U.S. Public Health Service.***

Precious Akanyirige, a fourth-year medical student in the MD/MPH degree program at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, served as an HBNU Fogarty Global Health Fellow during the 2021-2022 fellowship year.

Precious has been awarded the 2023 Excellence in Public Health Award, given by the U.S. Public Health Service.

This national award is given to medical students who have made significant contributions to the U.S. Public Health Service's mission to "protect, promote and advance the health and safety of our nation," and who help address public health issues in their community. Congratulations, Precious!

## Dominique Eugene

***HBNU Fogarty Fellow (2020-2021), Dr. Dominique Eugene, received Stellenbosch University's "Deputy Vice Chancellor's Top 20 Postdoc Award for Research Excellence and Innovation"***

During her fellowship year, the primary goal of Dominique's research project was to assess the prevalence of women offenders of intimate relationship violence; and whether childhood maltreatment and PTSD contributes to women's violent behavior in intimate partner relationships. The aim was to explore the collective pain and anger that occurs in many relationships and to explore the brutality that people endure, contribute to, and pass on to their children.

Despite experiencing initial delays in beginning her research project due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominique was able to overcome these challenges and successfully adapt her project. She is currently analyzing the data from her fellowship work and has plans for several publications.

You can read more about Dominique's work here:  
<https://sites.google.com/view/supostdocs/dr-dominique-eugene?authuser=0>



Dominique Eugene with Prof. Eugene Cloete and Prof. Wim De Villiers



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