NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship in Global Health

Request for Applications – Due November 15, 2010

The Frameworks Postdoctoral Fellowship in Global Health is a new training program awarded to UC Berkeley and UCSF by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Fogarty International Center. The program provides six months of funding for PhD or MD postdocs from disciplines traditionally not involved in "global health". The project must be related to drugresistance in Brazil, India, South Africa, or another emerging economy country.

This Request for Applications (RFA) is the first of two rounds of competition. The deadline for Round 1 is **November 15, 2010**. The second round will be announced in January 2011.

<u>The Award</u> Awards of up to \$35,000 will be available to pay the postdoctoral fellow's salary for up to six months, their international travel, and lab supplies. Salary levels are per NIH guidelines, but can be supplemented by other funds (e.g. R01, P01, etc). The international travel component for each project is expected to last at least one month.

Eligibility Postdoctoral fellows in the life sciences, chemistry, engineering, environmental sciences, math and information sciences, public health, medicine, social sciences and other disciplines are eligible for the fellowship. Fellows must be co-mentored by one faculty advisor at UC Berkeley or UCSF and a second advisor at a foreign collaborating institution. The proposed project can be a pilot study to develop new collaborations, an assessment of drug resistance challenges or risk factors, development of a diagnostic technology, validation of new drug targets, modeling the spread of drug resistant infections, genomics and genetics of drug resistant pathogens, economic impacts of drug resistance, etc.

<u>How to Apply</u> The deadline to apply is **November 15, 2010**. Applicants are required to develop and submit a one-page research proposal with the guidance of their faculty advisors. Applications will be reviewed by a panel of faculty members, and awards will be announced by December, 1 2010.

To apply, email the following to cend@berkeley.edu by midnight on November 15, 2010:

- Research Proposal (1 page limit; no budget required): Project description and background, specific aims, methods, relevance to drug resistance
- UC Berkeley or UCSF faculty advisor letter of support/recommendation (Note: Faculty advisors are encouraged in their letters to identify a trainee at the foreign collaborating institution who will benefit from the fellowship's investment in laboratory infrastructure and supplies.)
- Curriculum Vitae (2 page limit)
- Estimated dates for the postdoc's international travel

Review Criteria Reviewers will score proposals based on scientific merit and the relevance of the project to the field of drug-resistance research. Proposals should clearly identify the postdoc's role in the project (as distinguished from the roles of faculty advisors or other members of the lab/group), the specific objectives for time spent abroad, the deliverables expected by the end of the fellowship, and any work to be completed at UC Berkeley (as opposed to work carried out abroad). Priority will be given to postdocs working with two or more faculty members from different disciplines and/or schools at UCB/UCSF, in addition to the advisor at the collaborating institution abroad.

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About the Frameworks Postdoctoral Fellowship

The objective of the Frameworks Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC Berkeley is for PhD and MD postdoctoral fellows to gain experience in global health research, focused on drug-resistant infections. The program will support researchers at UC Berkeley, UC San Francisco, and collaborating institutions in Brazil, India, South Africa, and possibly other emerging countries. These countries represent emerging economy nations where the problem of drug resistant infections has become a major public and clinical health concern.

The training program has two tracks—one designed to train postdoctoral fellows in disciplines that are not traditionally represented in global health (chemistry, bioengineering, bioinformatics, genomics, mathematics), and another designed to cross-train postdoctoral fellows in medicine and public health with researchers in the social sciences and economics involved in global health and development.

The program's focus areas include:

Chemistry & Bioengineering: On-site development and validation of molecular detection systems for drug-resistant pathogens;

Bioinformatics & Genomics: Public-domain electronic resources for study of the genetic and genomic determinants of drug-resistance;

Mathematical Modeling & Statistics: Characterization and prediction of global and regional spread of drug-resistant infections;

Microbiology, Immunology & Biochemistry: Research examining mechanisms of drug resistance, and identifying new drug targets to circumvent drug resistance mechanisms of M. tuberculosis and other priority pathogens;

Public health, Clinical & Social Sciences: Characterization of the biologic, genetic, epidemiologic, clinical, social, economic, and behavioral determinants of drug resistance; and

Economics & Public health: Characterization of the distribution of drugresistance, the impact of human economic activities on the spread of resistant infections, and economic impacts of resistance on health.

Questions? Email cend@berkeley.edu for more information.

This program is administered by the Henry Wheeler Center for Emerging & Neglected Diseases: http://cend.berkeley.edu