

Zambia Hub – Summer 2020 Student Opportunities

Due: Friday, January 31, 2020

Zambia Hub

To give more focus to the School's global work, we are establishing a small number of geographic hubs to increase students' skills. A consistent presence at particular sites, working with a select group of partners, will allow us to provide quality experiences and deliver on strategic themes to improve public health. For summer 2020, we are pleased to partner with UNC Global Projects Zambia, UNC School of Medicine's Office of Global Health Education and the Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases to offer up to seven placement opportunities for **UNC Gillings residential MPH students** and **UNC School of Medicine first year students**. We expect to award up to \$5,000 per student (final amount TBD).

Position title: Database development for gynecologic cancers at the Cancer Diseases Hospital

Number of positions: 1

Short project description: Cancer Diseases Hospital is the only center offering comprehensive cancer treatment (radiotherapy, systemic therapy, surgery and palliative care) in Zambia. Every year approximately approximately 1300 patients are managed for gynecological malignancies, the bulk of which is cervical cancer. A database for cervix and breast cancer has been established and now the PIs intend to expand this to other gynecological malignancies (ovarian, fallopian tube, uterine, vaginal and vulva). This first time organized collection of data since the inception of the institution in 2006 will allow for analysis of the management and outcome of patients with gynecological malignancies in Zambia that is intended to inform policy.

Roles and responsibilities of student:

- Retrieve and prepare source data from patient paper records for computer entry and aligning it with required variables for the retrospective study
- In consultation with supervising oncologist, process the data by reviewing deficiencies, resolving discrepancies and returning incomplete records for correction to the Head Records Clerk at the cancer center
- Ensure entered data are correct at all times
- Process collected data into analyzable form
- Ensure patient confidentiality is maintained in the course of data collection

Expected outputs: The study will assist in the development of a database of non-cervical cancer gynecological malignancies at the Cancer Diseases Hospital and contribute to longer term plans for its sustainability

Skills or experience required:

- No requirements for focus areas or concentrations
- Experience working designing and managing registries and/or observational databases
- Skills sought include:
 - Accurate data collection
 - Planning and scheduling work to meet target
 - Critical thinking to discern appropriateness of variables set in the database compared to data in the patients files and propose those that will add value
 - Communication skills; adaptability to work in a resource limited environment

In-country supervisor: Professor Groesbeck Parham and Dr Dorothy Lombe

Location: Cancer Diseases Hospital, Lusaka Zambia

Minimum duration (minimum 8 weeks): 10 weeks

How to apply:

If you are applying to multiple positions, please do not apply until you have ALL cover letters written and ready to upload for each position.

1. Fill-out the [online application form](#) and upload the materials below to the form:
 - Cover letter for *each position* you are applying (*If applying to multiple positions, please write a cover letter for each position*)
 - CV/Resume (*If applying to multiple positions, only upload it once*)

2. Faculty Evaluation: Please identify a UNC Gillings faculty member who is able to evaluate you on the specific skills listed in the position description(s) you are applying for. Please tell the faculty member which position(s) you are applying for. *If applying to multiple positions, the faculty member only needs to complete one evaluation form (they will evaluate you for all your positions on one form).*

Send the Faculty Evaluation Form link to the faculty member:

https://unc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cMfN7vun0ORYWdD

Questions?

Please contact Naya Villarreal, MPH, at naya@unc.edu.