

Call for Applications 2018/2019

Scholarships for post-doctoral short-term research visits to the LOEWE Centre DRUID, Germany

Deadline for submission: 01 August 2018

Number of scholarships: seven

Funding period: approx. 3 months in 2018 or 2019

Introduction

The **LOEWE Centre DRUID** (Novel **D**rug Targets against Poverty-Related and Neglected Tropical Infectious Diseases) in partnership with the **African Research Network for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ARNTD)**, is offering seven short-term visiting research fellowships at selected member-institutions of the DRUID consortium in Hessen, Germany. We welcome applications from highly qualified and motivated post-doctoral African scientists with a strong research focus on neglected tropical infectious diseases (NTDs) and other poverty-associated diseases. The seven research areas of the hosting institutions of the DRUID consortium are:

<i>Research area</i>	<i>Knowledge and skills required</i>	<i>Institution</i>	<i>Group</i>
Human T-cell responses against <i>Leishmania</i> parasites	Cell culture; FACS based analyses of blood cells	Paul Ehrlich Institute, Langen	Zandbergen
Schistosomiasis, sexual maturation as drug target	Cell/worm culture; molecular biology	Giessen University	Grevelding
<i>In silico</i> identification of inhibitors of NTD targets (pharmaceutical chemistry, drug discovery, docking)	Excellent PC knowledge (Linux); chemistry; tools for chemoinformatics	Marburg University	Kolb
Medicinal chemistry (synthesis, drug design)	Synthetic organic chemistry	Marburg University	Diederich
Redox-active enzymes as drug targets against malaria	Molecular/ structural biology, protein biochemistry	Giessen University	Becker
Complement-inhibitory proteins of <i>Borrelia</i> causing relapsing fever in Africa	Molecular biology; protein biochemistry	Frankfurt University	Kraiczky
Pathogenesis of Rift Valley Fever	Molecular biology; cell biology; virology	Giessen University	Weber

About DRUID

In the LOEWE Center DRUID, the leading medical universities of Hessen along with the Paul Ehrlich Institute in Langen and the University of Applied Sciences of Central Hessen are addressing urgent questions on identifying and characterizing potential target molecules in order to develop drugs, vaccines, and diagnostic tools against poverty-associated and neglected infectious diseases. More than 30 scientists in 25 interdisciplinary research projects have come together in order synergize the capacities and expertise of Hessen in this field.

Objectives of the DRUID-ARNTD collaboration

1. To increase African involvement and visibility in cutting-edge NTD drug-discovery research, including through direct engagement with DRUID;
2. To contribute to improving the research capacity of an existing cadre of African NTD researchers and strengthening African research institutions in the process by supporting research on NTDs and poverty-related diseases;
3. To improve German-African communication and collaboration among researchers.

Eligibility

1. Candidates must hold a doctoral degree (e.g. PhD, DrPH, DSc) and must provide evidence of a strong theoretical and methodological background;
2. Must be currently engaged as a post-doc or equivalent by an academic, health, or research institution in Africa for the duration of the grant;
3. Must demonstrate having a commitment to NTD-related research as well as the skills and experience required to carry out the proposed work at the German host institution.
4. Must have excellent oral and writing skills in English.

Support

The DRUID Centre will support successful applicants financially in the form of short-term fellowships covering the proposed work, travel costs, insurance, and the recipients' cost of living for the duration of the fellowship in Hessen, Germany.

How to apply

To apply, click [here](#). Please feel free to also visit the DRUID or ARNTD websites detailed below. Interested applicants will be expected to submit a 1-2-page motivation letter, detailed CV, list of publications, summary of methodological expertise, and present research/description of research environment. The LOEWE Centre DRUID and ARNTD actively support women in scientific research and strongly encourage women to apply for the fellowships. Applications must be related to the research focus of one or two out of the seven research areas of the hosting institutions of the DRUID consortium (see list above).

Any questions on the call or application process may be directed to secretariat@arntd.org with the subject line "*Inquiry LOEWE Centre DRUID*".

For more information about the DRUID Centre please visit www.loewe-druid.de and for further information on the ARNTD please visit www.arntd.org