Network Funds Project 2018

Infectious Disease Symposium
Behind enemy lines: The hunt for future epidemics

Public Health Symposium
The gender equation: Implications for health?

International Career Service (ICS)

Advanced Modules
PhD Module Block II

Upcoming Events
With the aim to strengthen collaborative projects, CIHLMU partners and alumni were invited to apply for Network Funds that may be used for training workshops, clinical training programs, research projects or other South-South activities.

We are pleased to present the projects which were selected for 2018:

**PLAY HIGH: Premature Accelerated Ageing in Young HIV-infected Individuals: Global Research Initiative**

The project aims to connect scientists with different backgrounds to combine efforts and create an international initiative and research network. The aim is to study premature ageing in young (children and adolescents) HIV-infected individuals.

Responsibility for project:
Francesco Nicoli, University of Ferrara, University of Padua (Italy)
Mkunde Chachage, Mbeya Medical Research Center (Tanzania)
Deepak Paudel, Save the Children (Nepal)
Maria Teresa Solis Soto, San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca University (Bolivia)

**Assessment of the Magnitude, Etiology, Risk Factors and Outcome of Neonatal Sepsis at Jimma University Medical Center, Ethiopia**

The purpose of this study is to assess the magnitude, risk factors, etiologies and outcomes of neonatal sepsis at JUMC in Ethiopia. The availability of such data could help for development of an effective approach to the clinical management of neonatal sepsis in Ethiopia.

Responsibility for project:
Dr. Esayas Kebede Gudina, Jimma University (Ethiopia)
Dr. Solomon Ali, Jimma University (Ethiopia)
Melkamu Berhane, Jimma University (Ethiopia)
Dr. Andreas Wieser, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich (Germany)
Dr. Günter Fröschl, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich (Germany)
Dr. Guro Barnes, Norwegian Institute of Public Health (Norway)

**Analysis of Asymptomatic infections by Plasmodium in Mozambique and Brazil**

The project aims to evaluate the role of asymptomatic malaria cases in distinct scenarios considering the level of endemicity and the parasite species, in the cities of Beira, Mozambique, and in the Espírito Santo state, Brazil. In addition, the study aims to compare the parasites regarding the genetic diversity and reconstruct their phylogeny.

Responsibility for project:
Dr. Creuza Rachel Vicente, Universidade Federal do Espírito Santo (Brazil)
Dr. Kajal Chhaganlal, Universidade Católica de Moçambique (Mozambique)
Labor Insertion, Working Conditions and Health in Recently Graduated Health Professionals: Cohort study (Baseline)

The project aims to analyze the relationship between work and employment conditions and physical social and mental health in professionals graduated from the medical and nursing careers from universities in Chile, Colombia and Bolivia. The proposal seeks to complete the first phase of the study (recruitment) in order to have baseline information. Follow-up will be done at 2, 5 and 10 years. For the next phases, the research group will look for additional research funds that support the following measurements.

Responsibility for project:
Leonardo Briceño, Universidad del Rosario (Colombia)
Ricardo Oyarzun, Universidad Austral de Chile (Chile)
María Teresa Solís Soto, - Universidad San Francisco Xavier de Chuquisaca (Bolivia)

Pre-Conference Workshop on Capacity Building for National Sustainable Development – Nairobi Kenya, 2018

The workshop aims to establish a platform for collaboration and networking between and among African scientists, researchers, academia and students and other countries across the globe. The 2018 workshop will cover 3 major themes; laboratory diagnosis for effective disease diagnosis and generation of evidence-based clinical data (Track 1), mathematical modeling of disease with regard to climate change (Track 2) and implementation science “from research findings to policy” (Track 3).

Responsibility for project:
Dr. Eddy Okoth Odari, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (Kenya)
Ahmed Zeynudin Kasim, Jimma University (Ethiopia)

Pilot Courses of Occupational Health in Rural Areas of Latin America

The project aims to develop an occupational health training program which will focus on professionals and technicians working in rural areas of Latin America, students of health careers conducting their rural internships and related teachers from collaborating universities. The program will be piloted at three sites in 2018. The sites were selected to cover a range of typical rural occupational activities and to cover different cultural characteristics (e.g., indigenous populations and migrant seasonal workers). Each course will be evaluated (e.g., change in knowledge, attitude, and behavior).

Responsibility for project:
Verónica Encina, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich (Germany)
Astrid Garrido, CIH PhD Candidate
Dr. Manuel Parra, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich (Germany)
Claudia Meneses, Universidad Mariano Gálvez de Guatemala (Guatemala)
Maria Fernanda Bauleo, Ministerio de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (Argentina)
Infectious Disease Symposium
Behind enemy lines: The hunt for future epidemics

The symposium “Behind Enemy Lines: The Hunt for Future Epidemics” was held on March 10th, 2018 and organized by students from the CIHLMU PhD in International Health program.

The objective of the symposium was to examine the lessons learned from the changing epidemiology of infectious disease outbreaks, interrogate the evidence-based emergency response approaches and their anthropological utility, and to explore the advancements in infectious disease diagnostics. These topics were chosen and targeted for researchers in infectious diseases, public health practitioners, laboratory scientists, and academic and medical students.

Participants of the symposium were from 10 different countries and varied backgrounds. They listened to lectures from 5 esteemed professors from universities worldwide as well as participated in a poster session and panel discussion with the professors.

Public Health Symposium
The gender equation: Implications for health?

The symposium took place in Munich on March 17th, 2018. It was coordinated by Center for International Health (CIHLMU) and students of the PhD program Medical Research - International Health.

The aim was to highlight the implications of gender on various aspects of human health including occupational and reproductive health as well as infectious diseases and vaccination. There were presentations and discussions with experienced speakers from America, Europe and Africa. The topics for discussion included conceptualizing violence at work through a gender lens, sexual and reproductive health and rights: a gender perspective, sex-differential effects of vaccines on all-cause mortality, Zika Virus & Gender Health, and a gender perspective on vaccine uptake and responses.

The audience consisted of a varied group of participants including economists, medical practitioners, students of varying disciplines, sociologists and psychologists, which enriched and stimulated the discussion. Highlights included the new International Labor Organization (ILO) framework for gender-based violence in the workplace, the genetic basis for differences in responses to medication, diseases and vaccines by the different sexes. Other areas included the sex differences in childhood mortality following vaccines and gender issues that influence vaccine uptake.
Career Program 2018
International Career Service (ICS)

From January until April 2018, a total number of 8 international LMU students attend the Career Program 2018 offered by the ICS. The Program contains 4 individual coaching sessions and 2 group workshops, aimed at supporting the students with making their first steps in the German labour market. Additionally, five international LMU-students got accepted to participate in the 2 workshops only. Therefore, a total number of 13 students from 8 different countries participated in both workshops.

The first two coaching sessions mainly focused on the student’s career-related interests, strengths, skills and values. During the workshops, the participants learned how to set up their CV, write a cover letter and effectively search for jobs online. Additionally, they got the chance to practise a job interview and got insight in the German working culture. The third and fourth coaching sessions focus on future career steps and their resources. In order to ensure a high quality, all program steps are continuously evaluated.

PhD Module Block II

At the end of March, the PhD candidates from the 2016 batch will return to their countries of research after having spent three months here in Munich for their second training module. The group of ten PhD candidates, from ten different nationalities, participated in seminar weeks which they selected according to their own interests. Among these were seminar weeks on Learning Science, Infectious Diseases Diagnostics, Applied Clinical Research and Spatial Epidemiology. The course week on Global Mental Health took place for the first time in 2018 and proved to be a great success.

Additionally, the PhD candidates had the opportunity to organize two symposia on “The gender equation: Implication for health” and “Behind enemy lines: The hunt for future epidemics”. Both symposia hosted high-level speakers and were followed by fruitful discussions, so we are looking forward to the Global Health symposia series to be continued next year.

Students enjoyed a retreat at the monastery Benediktbeuern in southern Germany. They even got to take a break to enjoy the snow!
Claudia Meneses Pinto is a physician from Guatemala who graduated from the Master OSH program in 2015. During the masters she studied mental health in Guatemalan firefighters who were exposed to violence.

Currently, she is working for two transnational companies in the chemical and telecommunication sector as well as teaching occupational medicine at the Universidad Mariano Gálvez, Guatemala.

During her time studying with the master’s program, she learned many things that were helpful for her current jobs. Many of the methodologies and statistics learned are helpful for working in the technical field; however the biggest help for her was to learn how to work to the highest ethical standards. It was also very helpful for her to work so closely with colleagues and teachers who worked with such integrity and at such a high level.

Ahmed Zeynudin Kasim participated in the PhD Program in Medical Research – International Health with the topic “Genotypic and phenotypic resistance traits of gram-negative bacteria isolated from clinical and environmental samples” and graduated in 2017. The work was done at Jimma University Hospital in Ethiopia where he is currently working as an associate professor of infectious disease studying antimicrobial resistance.

During the PhD program, Ahmed learned many skills that are helpful for his job today: these include critical and creative thinking skills, communication and interpersonal skills, personal effectiveness along with many others. He especially liked that in the program responsibility and accountability in every system is well implemented. He would recommend this program for others who are looking to be the next generation of leaders in research and practice in public health who can use high quality clinical research techniques in order to address their national and regional health challenges.
The aim of the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and International Health (DTMIH) is to improve the health of populations in low- and middle-income countries by training international health professionals in research methods. We offer this program to qualified health care professionals with a good knowledge of English.

Register before April 30th for the early bird discount!

- **Duration**: 3 months (October – December)
- **Concept**: In person modules
- **Grade**: Certificate from Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- **Approach**: Research/Professional
- **Language**: English

For more information, please visit our [website](#).
29th October – 9th November 2018
Academic Teacher Training Course in Munich
Munich, Germany

The International Academic Teacher Training Course (ATTC) in Munich makes use of excellence in faculty development to support the development of globally applicable approaches in medical education. The course was designed to bring together staff in health professions education who want to improve their skills as an educator, and health educators with responsibility for the medical curriculum.

In the course participants will:
- Experience problem-based learning (PBL) as a participant and as a PBL tutor, create a problem (case) for PBL, and review other problems (cases) for PBL.
- Improve their teaching in large and small groups, give feedback and receive feedback.
- Describe components of curriculum development, formulate learning objectives, create and evaluate written test items.

Application Deadline: May 1st, 2018

For more information please visit our website.

18th – 26th June 2018
International Advanced Module
Tropical Vector Biology and Control
Cape Coast, Ghana

The course aims to provide students with knowledge and critical understanding of tropical vector biology and their behavior with an emphasis on technologies and strategies used for control.

Course Content
- Basic functional morphology of arthropods of medical importance
- Habitat ecology of vector mosquitoes
- Arthropod behavior and control strategies
- Mosquito sampling techniques and identification
- Larval survey
- Insecticide resistance and mechanisms
- Methods of evaluation of insecticide susceptibility of mosquitoes and efficacy of insecticide treated nets/indoor residual spraying
- PCR techniques used for species identification and screening for resistance mutation
- Insecticide resistance management

Course Location
Department of Conservation Biology and Entomology
University of Cape Coast, Ghana

Application Deadline: March 25th, 2018

For more information please visit our website.
Almost seven decades after the program of ‘developing the underdeveloped regions’ was launched, its results are ambivalent. While some point to successes of development cooperation and recently the Millennium Development Goals in reducing poverty in the global South, others attribute these successes mainly to China and to modifications of the international poverty line (Hickel 2016). Even the entire paradigm – helping countries become like the global North – has been criticized as eurocentric. In a situation where still thousands die each day due to lack of food, medicine and clean water and where power inequalities often continue to underlie cooperation, it is paramount to reflect how development cooperation could be improved or even rethought in the light of previous experiences and of current conditions and dynamics. One important area of consideration is how new instruments of development cooperation (e.g. budget support), rising powers, new donors and South-South cooperation (Quadir 2013) might change the framing, effectiveness and fairness of cooperation, how they fare in these respects so far and why. Since 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals are heralded as the new way forward, also re-framing development as well as cooperation and likewise leaving behind the dichotomy of ‘developed’ vs. ‘developing’ countries.

However, if the apparatus of development cooperation – be it of old or new donors – functions as an ‘anti-politics-machine’ (Ferguson 1994) that conceals the political dimension of power and conflicts in its operations, cooperation must also be reconsidered on a different level. Organized interventions in collective affairs according to a standard of improvement (Nederveen Pieterse 2010: 3) have always benefitted some groups more than others. It is time to rethink and modify development cooperation accordingly, if our aim is improving the livelihoods of the poor, we need to recognize the different social groups, their interests and their political conflicts.

Call for papers!!!! The organizers invite contributions for papers and discussion panels on the following topics:

- Successes and failures of development cooperation
- New donors and South-South cooperation
- The SDGs and the future of development studies
- Power, politics, and the political economy of development cooperation
- Accountability in development policy
- Beyond aid: global structural policy and global public goods
- Post-Development, local knowledge, and alternatives to ‘development’
- Reflection on cooperation among Universities in North and South

Deadline for submission 31 March 2018

For further information, please visit www.exceed.global
21 April 2018
Humanitarian Symposium 2018
Munich, Germany

We warmly welcome anyone who is interested in learning more about development cooperation, humanitarian aid, or international health to join us at the Symposium on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid happening in Munich this April.

Information will be presented on the newest trends and knowledge about different prevention and therapies for diseases common in developing countries. The goal of the symposium is to present different key topics and encourage a discussion among participants about their experiences and expertise to find new strategies that medical professionals and humanitarian aid workers can use in their professional lives. Find out more information about the symposium here.

Important to note: The symposium is held partly in German and partly in English.

The number of participants is limited so make sure you register early to secure a place.

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Organized by:
Forum für Internationale Gesundheit (Foring) CIHLMU

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Check out some articles from our alumni which have been published the last few months!

- Graf et al. in Pulmonary Pharmacology & Therapeutics here
- Nicoli et al. in AIDS here
- Tanaka et al. in European Journal of Cancer Prevention here
- Vicente et al. in Epidemiology and Infection here
- Vicente in PLoS One here
- Tanaka et al. in International Journal of STD and AIDS here