INVITATION TO APPLY FOR RESEARCH ETHICS TRAINING AT HARVARD

Over the past few years, Rwanda has made great strides in strengthening its healthcare system. Rwanda seeks to expand and strengthen its capacity to conduct research in medicine and public health, including research involving human subjects. Health research proposals that involve human subjects need to be approved by an ethics review committee (ERC) that ensures that subjects will be treated fairly and that, if necessary, works with investigators to modify the proposals to meet exacting ethical standards.

The work of ERC members requires specialized training. Harvard University faculty invite qualified Rwandans to apply for a Fellowship in research ethics, toward potential future contribution to an ERC, such as the Rwanda National Ethics Committee (RNEC). Those selected for the fellowship will be eligible for: an intensive training course to be offered beginning in August 2018. The initial phase of the course will involve online education and participation in a short course in Rwanda. The fellows will then travel to Boston, Massachusetts during the week of October 15, 2018, for more intensive training.

In Boston, Fellows will attend the course, “Ethical Issues in Global Health Research” (EIGHR), offered by the Harvard Chan School of Public Health (see https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/ohra/eighr/), between October 22-25, 2018. Fellows will also intern at Harvard-based IRBs and other local agencies involved with human subjects’ research oversight, from the social sciences to clinical research. They will continue to train with Harvard ethics faculty. The course will end on October 26, 2018 with an event featuring presentations by the Fellows. The Fellowship will cover the cost of travel to Boston, and of lodging and meals while the Fellows are in the U.S.

The Fellowship welcomes applications from scientists, professors, advanced trainees for investigator roles, ERC members, and faculty in research ethics.

Candidates for the course will be selected based on:

- Relevance of career paths
Promise for future leadership and high-quality practice and research in human subjects research ethics review, research, or leadership in Rwanda or the region

Fluency in English (a requirement)

A bachelor’s degree (a requirement) and preferably a post-graduate degree or training

Additional requirements

Employer’s ability and willingness to grant you the required time off

Prospective Fellows must have a passport and be able to secure a visa for the United States

Internet access to support at least good audio at home and/or at work

Interested individuals should submit their curriculum vitae and the Fellowship Application no later than 11:59 p.m. Rwanda time on June 15, 2018 by e-mail to Dr. Bernard Friedland, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, by e-mail: bernard_friedland@hms.harvard.edu. The Fellowship Application can be downloaded at the following link: https://drive.google.com/open?id=14N-GzZ5Ook4ylyP3RJF1Qr7Be-n9ULUF. You can also request that it be e-mailed to you by sending an e-mail to rwandaethics@gmail.com with subject line “Rwanda Ethics Application.”

Final selection of the Fellows will be made by June 22, 2018.

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