

GLOBAL SURGERY RESEARCH HUB RWANDA

Building research leaders in global surgery: PhD research proposals hackathon.

1. Background

With an objective to be a research-led University with national, regional and global impact, the University of Rwanda (UR) envisions being an academically excellent research-led institution that is locally relevant and internationally recognized. Its mission is to become a world-class university empowering national economic and social transformation through active participation in global research.

In this regard, the University of Rwanda has signed an agreement with the University of Birmingham to establish a Global Surgery Research Hub under the department of surgery.

The role of the Hub is to improve surgical outcomes, promoting evidence-based surgical practice, to oversee different surgical clinical trials and facilitate collaborative surgical research, translating research findings into policies and practices that best fit local needs.

UR Global Surgery Research Hub organizes research open day once a year. This is a platform for innovations, research dissemination and community engagement for a better use of research findings as well as the awareness of Hub's ongoing studies. Research open day attracts and streamlines researchers and students with interest in research to grow their research enthusiasm through mentoring and supporting their research proposals.

This year, **UR Global Surgery Research Hub obtained small grants to support ongoing PhD projects around surgery and perioperative care.**

2. Aim of the hackathon

To support collaborative efforts to develop innovative, and applications adapted to local and global solutions, the Global Surgery Research Hub Rwanda, in collaboration with the Department of Surgery of the University of Rwanda is organizing within the research open day scheduled on 02 August 2024, a competition aiming to select and support the best three (3) research proposals with small research grants.

3. Call for PhD research proposals

The University of Rwanda through the Global Surgery Research Hub is pleased to announce a call for applications for PhD candidates with research topics related to surgery and perioperative care for presentation at the upcoming Research Open Day.

We invite highly motivated individuals admitted for PhD in the College of Medicine and Health Sciences to submit their PhD proposals for competition for small research grants



(2.5M-5M FRW) which will be provided through sponsoring research activities ranging from tuition fees, data collection, data analysis, publication and any other research cost.

The topics should be including but not limited to:

- Surgical care delivery in low-resource settings
- Innovations in surgical training and education
- Access to surgical care and health systems strengthening
- Surgical outcomes and quality improvement
- Global health policy and advocacy related to surgery
- Cost-effectiveness of surgical interventions
- Any other surgical related research project

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must be conducting her/his project in Rwanda .
- Applicants should be at the beginning of PhD journey(\leq 1st Year) if advanced, he/she should motivate why he/she needs the above-mentioned support

Application Requirements:

- ✓ **Cover Letter:** A letter of intent stating your interest in Global Surgery and your motivation for pursuing a PhD thesis competition
- ✓ **Research proposal:** A detailed research proposal outlining your proposed topic, objectives, methodology, and potential impact of your research.
- ✓ **A valid admission letter.**

4. Proposal Submission

The proposal submission shall meet the following criteria:

- A. Proposal should cover at least one of the above-mentioned topics.
- B. Maximum 5 pages that clearly states the:
 - 1) The Title of the Project (restricted to a maximum of 20 words, indicating the essence of the project)
 - 2) Introduction (1 page)
 - 3) Clear Objectives (They should be realistic, measurable, achievable, and fit well within the duration of the proposed work (1/2 page)
 - 4) Clear methodology (Show what to do and how to do it (1page)
 - 5) The plan for data collection and analysis (1 page)
 - 6) Realistic timelines and goals (1/2 page)

- 7) Expected outcomes (1/2 page), and
- 8) Impact of the study (1/2 page)

The proposals must be in PDF and submitted through email: globalsurgeryrwanda@gmail.com and copy to uncogoza@gmail.com and the submission should be named: "PhD research proposal competition- Global surgery".

The deadline for submission is 15/07/2024. Late applications will not be considered.

5. Evaluation

A designated committee of experts will evaluate proposals together with the team from the Global Surgery Research Hub.

6. Timelines

Submission Deadline for research proposal	15/7/2024
Notification of the winners	25/7/2024
Research proposal presentation and Awards ceremony	02/8/2024

7. Contact

For any further details about the call Please do not hesitate to contact Mr. NGANABA-SHAKA Jean Pierre via e-mail: nganajp@gmail.com.

Done at Kigali on 24/6/2024



For

Faustin NTIRENGANYA, MD, MMED, FCS, PhD
Associate Professor of Surgery
Chair, Department of Surgery
Director, NIHR Research Hub on Global surgery/Rwanda
School of Medicine and Pharmacy
College of Medicine and Health Sciences
University of Rwanda