

## 2017/2018 Summer Studentship Project Application Form

Send to: Research Office, University of Otago Christchurch, PO Box 4345, Christchurch, by 5pm on 3 July 2017

### Supervisor Information (First named supervisor will be the contact):

First **Supervisor's** Name and Title: Dr Andrew Miller, Senior Lecturer in Pathology

Department - UOC &/or CDHB (if applicable): Department of Pathology, UOC

First Supervisors Phone: 364 0115

First Supervisors Email:  
andrew.miller@otago.ac.nz

First Supervisors Mailing Address: Pathology Department, UOC

Co-Supervisors Name and Title(s): Faumuina Assoc Prof Tai Sopoaga (Associate Dean Pacific OMS); Dr Malama Tafunai (Convener of senior medical students NUS Faculty of Medicine and Clinical Senior Lecturer (Pacific Health) OMS), Mr Roshit Bothara (BMedSci Hon Student), Dr Ashis Shrestha (Convener VCR Course, Patan Academy of Health Sciences, Nepal); Mrs Jen Desrosiers (Undergraduate Medical Convener Dept of Population Health UOC); Professor David Murdoch (Dean UOC); Dr Susan Jack (Senior Research Fellow, Centre for International Health, University of Otago); Professor Tim Wilkinson (Director of MBChB Programme, Faculty of Medicine, University of Otago), Dr Tony Walls (Clinical Senior Lecturer, UOC), Assoc Prof Philip Pattemore (Convener, 5th year Paediatric Attachment, University of Otago, Christchurch)

### Research Category (Choose one category only – to be used for judging the students' presentations):

Clinical

Laboratory

Community:

### Project Title (20 words MAXIMUM):

Samoa, New Zealand and Nepalese medical student perspectives, attitudes and ideas arising from the Global Health Classroom (GHCR).

### Project Description:

#### Introduction:

Since the early 1990s there has been a burgeoning interest in global health learning in undergraduate medical curricula to address the wide range of cultural, environmental and ethical issues that increasingly impinge on healthcare worldwide.

To address global health learning in the Otago MBChB undergraduate curriculum, there are currently several initiatives. One relatively new initiative is entitled the Global Health Classroom (GHCR), which involves videoconferenced, case-based collaborative learning sessions between small-groups of medical students in Samoa and NZ, and also Nepal and NZ.

During 2017, Roshit Bothara undertook a BMedSc(Hons) project on the 2017 GHCR. He obtained a wealth of valuable data, particularly on the perspectives of students in Samoa, NZ and Nepal regarding global health learning, and how effective the GHCR format is for global health learning.

Much of the survey and interview data will not be directly used in Roshit Bothara's Honours thesis and they are therefore available for a Summer Studentship project. Ethical consent was obtained to collect this data and Roshit Bothara and his supervisors strongly believe that these valuable student perspectives and ideas about global health learning should be further mined.

Currently there is not a large body of literature and knowledge regarding global health learning in medical curricula in New Zealand, Pacific and Nepalese medical schools. Therefore, further analysis of this valuable data will be useful to inform on-going development of undergraduate curricula in these medical schools, and may generate publications in the wider medical literature.

#### Aim:

To interrogate the existing data from Roshit Bothara's BMedSc(Hons) regarding the perspectives, ideas and attitudes of the medical students participating in the 2017 GHCR in Samoa, NZ and Nepal regarding global health learning.

Suggested questions could include some (not all) of the following:

- Is this cohort of medical students interested in global health, and why or why not?

- Does this cohort of medical students consider global health important and why or why not?
- What, if anything, did this cohort of medical students want to learn about global health?
- How engaged was this cohort of medical students in collaborative learning in the GHCR with students from diverse cultures and backgrounds?
- What are the favoured ways that this cohort of medical students wants to learn about global health?
- How do medical students learn about global health outside of formal undergraduate medical curricula?

Possible impact (in lay terms):

Analysis of this data will be useful to inform on-going development of undergraduate curricula in the participating medical schools in Samoa, NZ and Nepal, and may generate publications in the wider medical literature.

Method:

The raw data from questionnaires and interviews collected for Roshit Bothara's BMedSc(Hons) Research Project will be made available to the Summer Student who will, in consultation with the Supervisors, interrogate the data regarding particular questions related to global health learning in the 2017 GHCR.

There is the potential for both quantitative and qualitative analysis of the data.

The particular questions/topics/aspects to study will be generated in the first weeks of the studentship in consultation between the student(s) and supervisors. A literature review by the student will be required to inform the particular questions/topics/aspects of global health learning to research during the studentship.

It may be possible to do a collaborative study with a medical student in Samoa (Faculty of Medicine, NUS), but at the time of writing this proposal this possibility is still being explored.

Student Prerequisites (eg. Medical Student) if applicable:

## Administration Details

1. Is ethical approval required? Yes

If Yes: please circle or tick one of the following:

a) Applied for (provide application #): Ethical Approval from Patan Academy of Health Sciences in process

b) Approved (attach a copy of the letter of approval from the ethics committee or application #):

University of Otago Approval Letter Attached

Faculty of Medicine, National University of Samoa Approval Letter Attached

2. Are you able to provide the funding for this project (ie. \$5,000 for the student, incidental expenses should be met from departmental or research funds) No

If Yes: Please provide name of the funder \_\_\_\_\_

If No: Please provide ideas of possible funding sources, including past funding agents and topics often associated with this research area, for the Research Office to contact.

- University of Otago, Division of Health Sciences

If Yes: You will be sent a request for more information.

3. Medical Records or Decision Support accessed No

4. Health Connect South or other DHB records No

5. Signatures:

- I have read the 2017/2018 Summer Studentship programme handbook.
- I am prepared to supervise the project and will be available to the student during the studentship (including Christmas/New Year break if the student is working during this time).
- I agree to assume responsibility for the submission of **the student's reports to the Research Office** by the due date 29 January 2018.
- I agree that the project lay report may be available to local media for publicity purposes.

Signature of Project Supervisor(s):

Date:

- I understand that I am responsible for hosting the Summer Student chosen for this project and will meet any costs incurred. I agree that incidental expenses will be met from departmental or research funds.

Signature of Head of Department:  
(Print Name)

Date:

Signature of Clinical Director: (if applicable)  
(Print Name)

Date:

