

HIGHLIGHTS

Additional grant for Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking

The four platforms under the Building Stronger Universities (BSU) are finalising a joint proposal to the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) for an additional DKK 19 mill. grant for *'Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking'*. The revised and final proposal will be submitted to MoFA on 9 November.

NEW ASSIGNMENTS WITH THE PLATFORM ON HUMAN HEALTH

Please see below the announcements for new assignments in Ghana and Tanzania. Qualified staff at any Danish University is invited to apply.

Express your interest in an assignment by forwarding a brief CV (max. 2 pages) to the Danish contact person stated in the given announcement. The CV should clearly document how your previous experience qualifies you to solve the assignment in the given setting. **Deadline is Thursday 15 November 2012.**

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)

- [Co-supervisor for a PhD student planning a project within the field of "Drug utilization for severe malaria therapy and treatment outcomes in paediatric patients at two main teaching hospitals In Ghana".](#)
- [Co-supervisor for a PhD student planning a project within the field of "Susceptibility patterns and mechanism of antibiotic resistance of Escherichia coli, Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Salmonella typhi, and Staphylococcus aureus isolates from poultry litter and farm hand in the Ashanti and Greater Accra regions of Ghana".](#)

Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC)

- [Co-supervisor for a PhD student planning a project within the field of "The Effectiveness of surrogate markers in treatment outcome of MDR-TB in Tanzania".](#)

State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and Zanzibar College of Health Sciences (ZCHS)

- [Training in Problem-based Learning \(PBL\)](#)

WORK PLAN PROGRESS

GHANA

University of Ghana (UG) and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)

22-26 October, PHH project administrators Ms Nadia Tagoe from KNUST and Ms Rita Quist-Therson from UG visited University of Copenhagen. Their *study tour focused on project management* and was facilitated by Christian Gregart.

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In early October, a team from the University of Copenhagen led by Jens Dolin facilitated a joint BSU *Training of Trainers Workshop on PhD Supervision* in Ghana. The training attracted participants from UG and KNUST, representing Platform on Human Health (PHH), Growth and Employment Platform and the Platform on Environment & Climate.

TANZANIA MAINLAND

Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) and National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR)

In October, a *three-day workshop on research proposal writing* was successfully completed at KCMC. The participants (including 12 KCMC based PhD-students and 10 senior faculty members) were invited to present, discuss and improve existing research project proposals. Christentze Schmiegelow, Dirk Lund Christensen and Peter Furu from University of Copenhagen participated as facilitators and presenters of generic aspects of research proposal development. The workshop witnessed a constructive and lively interaction between the PhD students, KCMC faculty and the Danish counterparts.

A subsequent *international PhD symposium* presented an opportunity for presentations and discussions of selected '*near-the-end*' PhD projects as well as a session on '*personal development plans*' conducted by Hazel McCullough from the Malaria Capacity Development Consortium and London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

5-10 November, a *joint BSU Training of Trainers Workshop on PhD Supervision* is scheduled to take place with BSU partner institutions in Tanzania. As in Ghana the training will be facilitated by a team from University of Copenhagen led by Jens Dolin. The workshop will include participants from PHH (staff from the State University of Zanzibar, Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College and National and Institute of Medical Research) as well as from Growth and Employment Platform and the Platform on Environment & Climate (staff from the University of Dar es Salaam and Sokoine University of Agriculture).

ZANZIBAR

State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) and Zanzibar College of Health Sciences (ZCHS)

Birgitte Bruun from Aarhus University has been selected to fill the position *Co-supervisor for PhD student on Reproductive Health and advisor towards ZCHS on development and upgrading of training activities related to sexual and reproductive health*.

JOINT BSU ACTIVITIES

All four platform chairpersons and coordinators and the BSU project manager met on 25 October to discuss the management and implementation of the additional grant for Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking and the BSU Phase II proposal development process. Tove Degnbol and Dariann Riber from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs took part in the last part of the meeting.

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The platforms agreed that collaboration especially in the areas of e-learning and problem-based learning will be prioritised in the implementation of the additional grant and during the Phase II.

According to the draft plan the BSU Phase II proposal should be submitted to the Danish Rectors' Conference for approval mid April and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs by mid May 2013. To provide lessons learnt from the Phase I process and input to the planning of the Phase II organisation and proposed activities it was agreed that a review should be carried out in January 2013.

BSU Planning and Networking Workshop (27-29 August)

For the first time the representatives from all BSU partner institutions in five countries (Tanzania, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya, Nepal) and the Danish representatives from the four platforms were gathered at the BSU Planning and Networking Workshop. [Read more here.](#)



PHH internal meetings (29-31 August)

After the joint BSU workshop, the six representatives from the PHH's partner institutions in Ghana, Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar participated in a number of internal PHH meetings, including thematic meetings as well as Ghana and Tanzania research coordination meetings.

UPCOMING: Joint meeting for BSU assignment holders: PhD co-supervision and course development (12 November)

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an opportunity for BSU resource persons to meet and share information and experiences across the platforms and partner institutions, and clarify procedures and guidelines regarding BSU assignments on PhD co-supervision and course development. The meeting takes place on Monday 12 November 2012 at 10.00-13.00, at University of Copenhagen, CSS, Building 9, 2. Floor. [Read more here.](#)

THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS' UPCOMING MEETINGS

Climate Change and Health

- 13 November at 14.30-16.00 (University of Copenhagen, CSS Building 9, 2.floor): [Working Group meeting.](#)

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e-Health in Africa

- **1 November 2012 at 11.00-12.00 (Skype-meeting):** [Working Group meeting](#).

Sexual and Reproductive Health Working Group

- **20 November at 15.00-17.00 (University of Copenhagen, CSS Building 9, 2.floor):** Working Group meeting.
- **20 November at 16.00-17.00 (University of Copenhagen, CSS Building 9, 2.floor):** ‘[SRHR beyond 2015](#)’ - [Open Debate meeting with Françoise Girard](#), President of International Women's Health Coalition. Registration by mail to Lise R. Østergaard (liro@sund.ku.dk).

[Read more about the thematic working groups here.](#)