

HIGHLIGHTS

Process of sharing experience and lessons-learnt from the Phase I and planning of Phase II has started

Meetings are taking place all across the Platform on Human Health (PHH) to discuss the progress and lessons learnt from Phase I and to initiate planning of Phase II activities and budgets.

The plans and priorities at partnership level will feed into a joint Building Stronger Universities (BSU) Phase II proposal – covering the period August 2013 to July 2015 – that will be submitted to the Danish Rectors' Conference and subsequently to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for approval in April and May.

Grant for Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking

The Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has approved the additional DKK 19 mill. grant for Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking to be shared between the four BSU platforms. The detailed planning of the activities will take off in the beginning of 2013. One built in objective is to strengthen collaboration across the four thematic BSU platforms on generic activities including Problem Based Learning and e-learning.

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 announcement. The CV should clearly document how your previous experience qualifies you to solve the assignment in the given setting. **Deadline is Friday 11 January 2013.**

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)

- [Knowledge Management: Web Research Communication](#)
(Please note that the assignment may be shared between two resource persons.)

University of Ghana

- Re-announcement: [Effective management of postgraduate training and research: Library access](#)
(Please note that the assignment may be shared between two resource persons.)

Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC)

- [Co-supervisor for a PhD student planning a project within the field of 'Immunological and molecular epidemiology of malaria/arbovirus co-infections'](#)

RECENT RECRUITMENTS

The following researchers have been selected to recently advertised assignments and formal agreements are in process:

- UG: Knowledge management: Creation of research database – Assigned to Henry Madsen, University of Copenhagen
- UG: Knowledge management: Strategic Communication Workshop – Assigned to Per Kallestrup, Aarhus University
- KNUST: Co-supervisor for a PhD project within the field of '*Drug utilization for severe malaria therapy and treatment outcomes in paediatric patients at two main teaching hospitals In Ghana*' - Assigned to Pascal Magnussen, University of Copenhagen
- KNUST: Co-supervisor for a PhD 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*' – Assigned to Anders Dalsgaard, University of Copenhagen
- SUZA/ZCHS: Training in Problem-based Learning (PBL) - Assigned to Mona-Lise Dahms, Aalborg University

You will find a complete list of all PHH assignment holders at the [PHH website](#).

PROGRESS / UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES

Phase I activities are progressing timely and according to plans. However all PhDs have been delayed. Status of the 10 PHH supported PhD projects five PhD students are now registered at UG, two at KNUST, and two at KCMC, while the identified PhD student from ZCHS to be registered at KCMC is still working on her proposal.

There are similar delays across the other BSU platforms in general due to changes in PhD programme guidelines and a too optimistic timeline in comparison to how long it actually takes to announce the PhD fellowships, for qualified candidates to produce and present relevant proposals, then to be formally approved and registered. In response to this situation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has agreed to extend PhD related budgets in BSU Phase I as required.

GHANA

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

The joint PHH Ghana Implementing Committee and the PHH coordinator shared experience and lessons-learnt from Phase I and agreed upon the process of preparing the Phase II proposal in a video conference held on 12 December.

TANZANIA MAINLAND

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

In December, Peter Furu replaced Niels Ørnbjerg as the Post Graduate Education Work Package Leader in the North Tanzania Team. Ben Hamel, Institutional Capacity Work Package Leader in the South Tanzania Team is leaving his position as Director of Postgraduate Studies at KCMC. A replacement for him in the PHH has yet not been identified.

In November, Helle Trøst Nielsen and Shirley Pollak met with management, faculty members and postgraduate students at KCMC to assess the needs for strengthening the postgraduate office and the quality assurance system for postgraduate programmes at KCMC.

Also in November, core members of the Danish PHH Tanzania team, Thor Theander and Dorte Holler Johansen, met with PHH representatives at KCMC, including Gibson Kibiki, Ben Hamel, Frank Moshā, Ahaz Kalunga, Moshā Ntabaye and Jim Todd to initiate sharing of experience from Phase I and planning for Phase II. A follow up meeting will be scheduled early 2013.

In December, Peter Furu facilitates a course on Research Management & Leadership at KCMC together with Frank Moshā.

ZANZIBAR

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

Early December, Mona-Lisa Dahms from Aalborg University facilitated an initial session on Problem Based Learning (PBL) for staff members from SUZA and ZCHS. There will be follow up training in 2013 and the aim is gradually to start implementing PBL in the academic year 2013/2014 and to expand support to PBL activities according to priorities in future activity plans.

PHH Coordinator Bjørg Elvekjær and Zanzibar Implementing Committee representative Henrik Bregnhøj visited Zanzibar mid December to discuss progress of Phase I activities and priorities for Phase II with the PHH Zanzibar team and the management at SUZA and ZCHS.

THEMATIC WORKING GROUPS

Save the date: The Global Health Working Group is planning to host a **'Global Health Researcher Day'** on 23 May 2013 in Copenhagen to gather the Danish resource base in the field of global health. PHH thematic working groups will be invited to contribute with presentations. More information will follow in early 2013.

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

PHH STEERING COMMITTEE

There have been following changes in the Steering Committee:

- **Flemming Bager**, newly appointed Head of Division, National Food Institute, Division for Epidemiology and Microbial Genomics at DTU, has replaced Arne Büchert as the representative of the Danish Technical University.
- **Vibeke Rasch**, Professor, MD, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Odense University Hospital has replaced Morten Sodemann as the representative of University of Southern Denmark.

The Steering Committee met on December 10. Minutes will be uploaded when approved to the PHH website: <http://bsuhh.org/about/denmark/steering-committee/>

JOINT BSU ACTIVITIES

A review of the BSU Phase I will be carried out January-February 2013. The overall objective is to assess the organisational structure and the performance of the BSU platforms to the extent possible at this early stage of the partnerships with a view to make recommendations for the second phase of the programme. The plan is that the review team will meet representatives from all BSU partner institutions at joint meetings in Tanzania and Ghana early February.

Minutes and a contact list of the joint BSU Assignment Holders meeting available at bsuhh.org

On 12 November, the BSU Platforms organised a joint Assignment Holders' meeting to share information of and experiences in course development and PhD co-supervision. The minutes of the meeting, including detailed practical information for PhD co-supervisors, and a contact list of assignment holders are available at the [PHH website](#).

Joint BSU TOT course has its own website

The Trainer of Trainers on PhD Supervision course is a joint BSU activity that has involved Platform on Human Health, Growth and Employment Platform and the Platform on Environment & Climate in Tanzania and Ghana. Courses are facilitated by a team from the University of Copenhagen led by Jens Dolin. A new course website allows participants to access all relevant information online. View the website [here](#).