



## **ADVERTISEMENT FOR MASTERS OF HEALTH SERVICES AND OUTCOMES RESEARCH (MHSOR) WITHIN AN ONGOING PATIENT-CENTERED OUTCOMES RESEARCH (PCOR) PROJECT**

### **Introduction:**

Applications are invited for one (1) Masters training position within the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research (PCOR) program focusing on improving capacity in methods such as: 1. Measuring and improving patient-reported outcomes (PROs), for example quality of life, functional status, self-management and empowerment: 2. Experiential quality of services in HIV-infected individuals in Tanzania and: 3. Patient and community engagement in the research process. The position is part of the NIH-funded PCOR project that is implemented by MUHAS in collaboration with Northwestern University (NU) of Chicago, Illinois (USA). The project is expected to run from 2019 to 2024. The training program (total 2 years) includes a one-year Masters training program offered through Northwestern University in Chicago and a second year of funded mentored research at MUHAS. *The Master's program at NU delivers instruction through a combination of asynchronous online modules and activities, synchronous live online class meetings which will be done in Tanzania and one week in-person intensive instruction at Northwestern offered four times a year.* Once a year the Masters candidate will be expected to spend a full semester (12 weeks) at NU where they will take two additional PCOR courses not offered online. Trainees will be expected to conduct and complete their mentored research in Tanzania by the end of the following (second) year.

The recruited Masters candidate will be expected to enroll at NU and attend all online courses and in person instruction, meet regularly with his/her mentors (virtually or in person as appropriate) at Northwestern University and MUHAS and complete his/her mentored research within the two-year training period. The candidate will receive funding for travel to Northwestern, accommodation and a stipend while attending the five-day intensives and 1 semester at NU, a seed award to fund research, and travel support to attend international and/or regional conferences.

### **Eligibility criteria:**

1. Applicants must hold a) A Bachelor's degree or equivalent in a relevant health related field, and also pass the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) (Tanzania test center: The Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy located in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam see: <https://tz.usembassy.gov/education-culture/educationusa/test-centers-information/>); b) Medical (MD or its equivalent for example MBBS) or Dental Surgery (DDS) Degree, OR c) A PhD or Masters level degree in health related field.
2. Be fluent in both spoken and written English language, with supporting evidence from a prior higher learning institution's office of the Dean, that courses covered were taught in English.
3. The applicant must have either experience in health related research using basic level quantitative or qualitative data collection methods and knowledge of related statistical models and/or qualitative data collection and analysis approaches, or have experience in the provision/study of care and treatment of person's with HIV and be committed to pursuing a career in research and training in HIV and PCOR.
4. The candidate should have an interest in learning novel techniques in measurement of patient-outcomes and mixed-methods and other PCOR methodologies and applying them to improve the prevention, care or treatment of people with HIV or related comorbidities.
5. MUHAS employees and academicians from other health sciences universities will be given priority.

### **Personal Attributes:**

We seek persons who are highly motivated, and able to work both independently and as part of a team; with excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to work with a diverse range of individuals and organizations with highly different backgrounds. Also, should have a commitment to developing skills to become a

mentor and teacher in HIV PCOR in Tanzania and contribute to the evidence needed to support Tanzania to end the HIV epidemic and improve care and treatment and lives of persons living with HIV (PLH)

### **Applications:**

The application must include:

- A cover letter explaining your motivation and research interests and proposed focus of your research for this training program
- An updated CV containing an overview of education, experience – research, teaching, administration, professional work and references
- Copies of educational certificates (academic transcripts only) and a letter from a Deans office confirming previous University education courses undertaken were taught in English
- A list of academic works - publications (if any)
- A list of 2 to 3 references (name, institution, e-mail, telephone number and relationship to the candidate)

### **We offer:**

- An exciting work/training experience in an interdisciplinary HIV and PCOR research field including opportunity to take up to 13 courses when registered at the **Northwestern University (NU) Master of Science in Health Services Research and Outcomes program**
- Dual Mentorship from experts in PCOR and HIV from Tanzania and Northwestern University
- The opportunity to build research skills in a new area of research (PCOR) in Tanzania
- A good academic environment with dedicated and enthusiastic colleagues
- A large degree of independence in work
- Flexible deliverables within the two-year period

### **Expectations:**

The time committed to the master's program over the two years will include participating in online courses, intensive instruction, at Northwestern, attending PCOR and mentorship workshops at MUHAS, development of a research proposal, attending conferences, project meetings and doing and disseminating the master's thesis research project. By the end of the degree, the trainee will be expected to have: (i) designed and implemented an HIV PCOR study; (ii) published at least two scientific publications; (iii) co-designed and taught at least one methodologic course relevant to patient-centered outcomes with the faculty mentor; and (iv) mentored at least one junior researcher in an HIV PCOR project.

### **Applications Assessment Plan:**

Applications will be assessed in a two-step process.

- **First**, documented qualifications and the candidates' motivation and personal suitability will be assessed.
- **Subsequently**, shortlisted candidates will be invited to take part in an interview about the position. Review by the projects Training Advisory Committee (TAC) in February 2020. The final selected candidates will then undergo formal MHSOR registration process at NU.

### **Submission procedures:**

- Hard copies of complete application packages should be submitted physically to the office of the Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, MUHAS.
- ***Deadline for Applications is Friday 14th February 2020 at 5:00pm EAT.***

### **Send any queries you have about the position to:**

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