**PhD bursary: Harmonising Core Competencies for Masters in Public Health training for Africa**

**The Division of Public Health Medicine is seeking a strong candidate for this PhD bursary opportunity.**

**Summary of the project:** This project is located under the Association of Schools of Public Health in Africa (ASPHA) which will develop a set of Core Competencies for Masters in Public Health training programmes relevant for Africa; it will pilot these against existing programmes through a multicenter collaborative descriptive study; from this it will work with member institutions to harmonise curricula using the agreed Core Competences and evaluate the outcomes of using harmonized core competences (intervention study). A doctoral student will evaluate both processes and outcomes with particular focus on the utility of graduates for health systems in Africa. The findings will be used to develop an accreditation framework for Africa for MPH training, aimed at strengthening health systems in Africa.

The bursary is offered by UCT under a PhD mobility award as part of a UCT-ARUA Collaborative Research Project. The UCT investigators are Prof Leslie London and Dr Virginia Zweigenthal. The international partners include Dr Tolu Oni (Cambridge University, UK), Prof Phillip Adongo (University of Ghana) and Prof Ademola Ajuwon (University of Ibadan, Nigeria). The package includes an award of R 86 000 per annum plus a commitment to bring the successful student’s annual income to at least R 150 000 through either earnings from part-time employment in the department, and /or supplementary bursaries / scholarships.

Requirements: The successful candidate will

* Be a public health graduate of potential for a career in scholarship
* Have completed an MPH in the last 3 years
* Be familiar with health systems in African countries
* Have a strong academic record in their MPH
* Have demonstrated interest in public health training at postgraduate level
* Have demonstrated good writing skills

Advantageous characteristics would be:

* A record of one or more publications in peer-reviewed literature
* Track record in public health education and training

Interested applicants should send their application to Leslie London at [leslie.london@uct.ac.za](mailto:leslie.london@uct.ac.za).

Include in your application pack:

* A CV with three contactable referees
* A transcript of your masters degree
* A motivation / covering letter explaining your interest in the award

Closing date 21 April 2019