



## **Medical Education Partnership Initiative Scholarships to attend SARETI Modules**

The US National Institutes of Health (NIH) with the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (**PEPFAR**) have collaborated to form the **Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI)** which aims to strengthen medical education in Sub Saharan Africa. MEPI is a joint effort from the office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, the Department of Defence, PEPFAR and 19 components of the NIH.

The University of KwaZulu-Natal MEPI Programme is offering **ten scholarships** for Research Ethics Committee members/health care professionals employed at international MEPI sites to attend the South African Research Ethics Training Initiative's (SARETI) modules on Institutionalizing Ethical Review of Health Research and Ethical Issues in HIV Vaccine Trials. The SARETI programme PI is Professor Doug Wassenaar.

### **Overview**

The aim of this training programme is for MEPI biomedical staff and researchers to gain theoretical and practical knowledge in the ethical review of complex research protocols such as those for HIV prevention trials, and in institutionalising research ethics review in their home institution.

Duration: 2 weeks

Dates: **25-29 August 2014 & 01-05 September 2014**

Venue: University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

### **Module Description**

#### Module 1: Ethical issues in HIV preventative research

This module will expose students to the complexities and controversies associated with ethical issues in complex multinational trials of HIV prevention products, and cover relevant international and local ethical guidelines. This module provides a useful platform from which to debate international collaborative research undertaken in resource-poor settings with vulnerable populations of varied cultural backgrounds on a socially stigmatizing condition. Students will apply ethical thinking to particular circumstances in HIV prevention research. The module also addresses informed decision-making, standard of care, payment to participants and enrolment of adolescents and children.

**Module Coordinator: Prof Graham Lindegger**

#### Module 2: Institutionalizing Ethical Review of Health Research

This module focuses on implementing institutional ethics review of research. It covers all aspects of Ethics Review Committees' functioning; requirements; existing international and national African guidelines; different models; relationships with host institutions; and facilitating and maintaining institutional change. Conflict management between members of REC's or different REC's in multi-centre trials is also addressed.

**Module Coordinator: Prof Mariana Kruger**

### **Module Assignments**

Substantial time is allocated between lectures in which attendees are expected to prepare and complete a written assignment for each module. The assignments are compulsory and acceptance of the award implies acceptance of this condition. On successful completion of the training modules and submission of written assignments participants will receive a certificate of completion from SARETI.

MEPI funded by:





**Medical Education Partnership Initiative**  
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**MEPI module scholarship**

The scholarship is partial and will only cover costs such as module fees, training material, accommodation and nominal per diem.

Successful applicants are responsible for their own travel fares, visas costs and transport through their institution or network. UKZN-MEPI will not be responsible for flights and visa costs.

**Who should apply?**

MEPI health professionals in medicine or health related sciences (including applied social sciences) are eligible to apply. Prospective applicants should hold at least a 4-year Bachelor’s degree to be eligible to apply. **Note: SARETI teaching and evaluation is conducted entirely in English.**

**Application**

Please complete and forward the enclosed application to [singhn7@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:singhn7@ukzn.ac.za). The completed application form must be accompanied by a **1 page CV** and **signed letter of support from a suitable institutional official**. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please submit your application no later than **07 July 2014**, as space is limited. Only successful applicants will be notified.

**Contact**

Nivedhna Singh      Email [singhn7@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:singhn7@ukzn.ac.za)      Fax +27 33 260 6065      Tel+27 33 260 6165

**APPLICATION FORM**

To apply to attend the South African Research Ethics Training Initiative (SARETI) Module on Institutionalizing Ethical Review of Health Research and Ethical Issues in HIV Prevention Trials at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa.

Name			
Title (Dr, Professor, Ms, etc)			
Gender	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female
Postal Address			
Country of residence			
Email			
Phone Number			

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Qualifications			
Highest Completed Qualification	Institution	Discipline/Subject Area	Year
Please state College/Faculty registered/employed at			
Please list all financial assistance (bursaries, scholarships, fellowships, grants) that you are currently in receipt of from MEPI.			
Are you involved in the conduct of HIV prevention trials? <i>Please give details.</i>			
Please list <i>up to 5</i> of your most recent publications related to research ethics or HIV prevention.			
Description of current work (150 words)			

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<p>Brief statement of why you would like to attend the SARETI modules (up to 300 words)</p>	
<p>Please provide a letter of support from a contactable referee  Please also provide the name and contact details (email, phone number and address) of your referee</p>	

Please ensure that you have:

- o completed the **application form** in full
- o provided a brief (1 page) **CV**
- o provided a **letter of support** from a suitable referee

I understand that the decision of acceptance will be final.

Signature: ..... Date: .....

Preferably, email to: [singhn7@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:singhn7@ukzn.ac.za)

or Fax to : +27 33 260 6065

Phone contact: +27 33 260 6165

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