Global Short-Term Training Program (STTP) Opportunity in Mozambique

UCLA, Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), and the Central Hospital (HCM) in Maputo, Mozambique have developed a strong partnership to improve the level of Pediatric care through training and education of local health care professionals. With the support of funding through the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), UCLA and HCM/UEM develop annual work plans to prioritize needs in the department. Currently projects include improving neonatal survival, improving infection control, supporting training exchanges for Mozambican physicians in the US, and improving the library and access to medical education resources. We are interested in research to track the outcomes associated with our interventions in these areas.

Students interested in applying to this experience must be socially adept in different cultural contexts, humble, open-minded, patient, flexible, and must demonstrate the highest level of professionalism as an ambassador for UCLA in Mozambique.

Project Description: Upon acceptance to the site, students will be expected to perform a literature review, develop a study design, plan and/or update Institutional Review Board submissions, and perform other activities in preparation for the summer research project.

Potential projects include a 1) retrospective analysis of diseases/outcomes in the pediatric intensive care unit, 2) review of outcomes in the management of hydrocephalus and meningomyelocele and development of strategies for prevention, 3) evaluation of the incidence and type of infections in HIV-exposed infants. There may also be opportunities to partner with the Center for Disease Control – Mozambique.

Language Requirements: Portuguese fluency and/or Spanish fluency is strongly preferred. Exceptions will need to be made on an individual basis.

Duration: 6 weeks. June 9th to July 18th, unless otherwise arranged in advance.
**UCLA Mentors:** Dr. Daniel DeUgarte (Pediatric Surgery), Dr. Lee Miller (General Pediatrics), Dr. Tanya Arora (General Pediatrics), Dr. Jorge Lazareff (Pediatric Neurosurgery), and Dr. Emily Hartford (General Pediatrics, working on-site in Maputo).

**Approximate dates:** June 9th arrival in Maputo–July 19th departure from Maputo. Personal travel before or after the experience may considered with permission from UCLA mentors. Students must be back in LA by July 23rd to work intensively with mentors on the abstract and poster.

**Positions:** Two students will be selected for Mozambique. Prior to departure, students will work together to develop projects and then implement these projects on-site.

**Costs:** ~$4,400 (~$2,200 plane ticket; VISA ~$80; vaccines and malaria prophylaxis ~$100, additional expenses including food on-site ~$700 and personal supplies ~$100; housing ~$1200, but possibly more depending on student’s interest in shared versus individual rooms).

**Living situation:** Dr. Emily Hartford will assist students in finding housing.

**Other logistics:** On-site, students will be supervised by Dr. Emily Hartford and will work alongside Mozambican health care professionals.

Note: Many students who visit Mozambique may want to take time to travel before/after the program. This is a wonderful way to combine tourism with this academic experience. However, all travels plans are the responsibility of the student and should be scheduled so as not to conflict with the regularly scheduled program activities.

**Pre-departure requirements:**
1. Attend several in-person group meetings and teleconferences between March and June to include topic presentations and presentation of project implementation plans.

**Deliverables on-site and after return home:**
1. Development of individual abstracts and individual poster presentation at the STTP Josiah Brown Poster Day at the end of the summer, planned for Thursday, July 31, 2014.

For further information, please contact Dr. Daniel DeUgarte at ddeugarte@mednet.ucla.edu.