

PENNSTATE



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH TRAINING IN BIOBEHAVIORAL HEALTH

for underrepresented U.S. minority undergraduate and graduate students
Sponsored by the Dept. of Biobehavioral Health, College of Health & Human Development, Penn State

Spend the summer of the year 2009 in France, Switzerland or Africa studying tobacco consumption or HIV/AIDS intervention!

The Pennsylvania State University has received a Minority Health & Health Disparities International Research and Training (MHIRT) grant from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities to support the research training of nine undergraduate and three graduate students each summer at sites in Paris, France, in Geneva, Switzerland, in Cape Town, South Africa and in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Students selected for the sites in France will join interdisciplinary teams, led by the principal investigator, Dr. Gary King (Dept. of Biobehavioral Health), focusing on the epidemiology of smoking among youth and on targeted adolescent smoking intervention research. Students selected for the Geneva site will be placed with the World Health Organization's Tobacco Free Initiative program. Students selected for the site in South Africa will join researchers who are developing and evaluating culturally appropriate, community based HIV/AIDS intervention strategies. Students selected for the site in Tanzania will join Dr. Gad Kilonzo at the Muhimbili University College of Health Sciences, who is studying public health issues related to smoking and HIV/AIDS.

Trainees selected for this three-month program will receive transportation and living expenses plus monthly stipends of \$800 (undergraduate students) or \$1,225 (graduate students). The program will begin in late-May and run through early-August.

This program is particularly targeted to students interested in pursuing graduate studies in public health or biobehavioral health. Black/African American and Hispanic American males are especially encouraged to apply. Students in medical schools, or who intend to apply for entry into medical schools, are NOT encouraged to apply. Also, the PSU-MHIRT program cannot be used to fulfill an internship requirement. Trainees do not engage in data collection, only in data analysis.

Applicants should be currently enrolled Juniors, Seniors or Graduate students, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.30, or a cumulative grade point average of 3.40 for the last three semesters. Applicants must also be U.S. citizens or hold permanent resident visas. Since there are only three slots for graduate students, the competition for these slots is especially keen.

Completed applications must be received by **December 01, 2008.**

Contact person:

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