

## The causes and consequences of HIV transmission and drug resistance - PhD and MSc studentships available at UKZN for the MRC Flagship research project

"MRC Flagship projects, which are inter-disciplinary in scope, are an institution's highest impact and most prestigious research project. They are essentially big ideas, big science for big impact!" MRC President, November 2013.

## Genomics, Bioinformatics & Epidemiology II - Prof. Tulio de Oliveira & Prof. Frank Tanser, Africa Centre, UKZN

"This PhD project aims to identify factors associated with HIV-1 drug resistance in patients failing antiretroviral therapy. The student will use comprehensive statistical and data mining techniques in order to characterize clinical, social, genomic and economic reasons of ART failure and drug resistance development. This project has three aims that are to: i) To characterize the social, economic and clinical causes of acquired drug resistance using a multi-disciplinary analysis approach; ii) To determine the clinical consequences, including mortality, of drug resistance; and iii) To formulate strategies to prevent drug resistance. This project optimally exemplifies how genomics, clinical, social and economic information can directly and immediately impact human health in Africa. As part of the PhD the student will receive hands-on laboratory experience in next generation sequencing techniques and Bioinformatics"

PhD and MSc fellows will be awarded a scholarship that will cover their tuition costs in addition to a competitive stipend salary. Interested students should send an application, which should contain a CV and a motivation letter (max. 500 words) by 30 January 2014 to Mrs. Xolile Kineri @ email: <a href="mailto:xkineri@africacentre.ac.za">xkineri@africacentre.ac.za</a>, Tel: 035 550 7500, Fax: 035 550 7565.

In total, we are advertising 7 PhDs and up to 4 MScs fellowships that can be taken in different departments at UKZN. This includes the following disciplines *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Computer Science, Epidemiology, HIV Pathogenesis, Human Genetics, Genomics & Bioinformatics and Social & Economical Sciences. More info: www.bioafrica.net

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