

Bioethics Exchange

A newsletter from the
Johns Hopkins-Fogarty African Bioethics Training Program



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From the Directors



Greetings from Baltimore!

We've had an exciting summer here, hosting our long-term and short-term FABTP as well as our Global Bioethics trainees. You can read about our activities together on Page 3 and find out what kinds of practicum projects our 2016 long-term trainees are carrying out on Page 4. Many of our alumni attended and presented at the World Congress of Bioethics in Edinburgh, Scotland this June, allowing us to enjoy a mini-reunion together. See more about this event, as well as a helpful recap from Mary Kasule on Page 2.

We are happy to share news (see page 3) of a new project with the University of Zambia, member of the African Bio-

ethics Consortium (ABC), focused on strengthening IRB capacity. This project builds on our previous and current work dedicated to assessing and benchmarking IRB capacity. We also look forward to gathering with all of our African Bioethics Consortium partners in October in Lusaka for our annual meeting to discuss progress and challenges of the past year as well as future plans for the consortium. You can read about all of this, as well as other updates from our trainees and ABC leadership within this issue!

Wishing you a fruitful academic year,

Nancy Kass and Adnan Hyder
Directors, FABTP

Annual African Bioethics Consortium Meeting

The annual African Bioethics Consortium (ABC) meeting will take place this fall in Lusaka, Zambia on October 17th and 18th, 2016. The Consortium, established in 2012, is a network devoted to enhancing bioethics capacities, resources, structures and strategies within African institutions. Last year, FABTP affiliates from Consortium member-institutions the University of Zambia, the University of Botswana, Makerere University College of Health Sciences (Uganda), and Johns Hopkins University gathered in Gaborone, Botswana. This will mark the fifth annual meeting of the ABC.

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FABTP alumni reunite at 2016 World Congress of Bioethics

The International Association of Bioethics (IAB) hosted the 13th World Congress of Bioethics in Edinburgh, Scotland in June 2016. The 2016 theme was: *Individuals, Public Inter-*

ests and Public Goods: What is the Contribution of Bioethics? Nine Fogarty alumni and affiliates attended the biennial conference and a number of them presented their research during the three-day event. The Fogarty alumni and coordinators who attended include:

Joe Ali, Nicola Barsdorf, Mary Kasule, Paulina Tindana, Chris Mweemba, Dimpho Ralefala, Aminu Yakubu, Godfrey Tangwa, and Francis Masiye. The 2016 themes for the IAB's World Congress were: Art

and Ethics; Individuals, Public Interests and Public Goods; Public Health, Ethics and Law; and, of particular interest to Fogarty alumni, Global Bioethics. The next meeting of the IAB World Congress will be in 2018 in New Delhi, India.

Consortium Profile: Charles Michelo

Dr. Charles Michelo is currently Chair of the Department of Public Health, University of



Zambia (UNZA) and a tireless champion of the importance of research ethics at UNZA. Dr. Michelo was a 2012 short-term Fogarty trainee and since 2012 has served as UNZA leadership within the Fogarty African Bioethics Consortium.

He has been Zambian Principal Investigator of several international collaborations including PEPFAR and for the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI). Dr. Michelo is both a physician and has a PhD in epidemiology; he has published close to 50 publications in the areas of epidemiology and health systems improvement and has built a well-respected department of public health at UNZA whose faculty continues to grow and do important scholarship. Dr. Michelo will be responsible for overall management of work funded through the NIH G-11 grant, profiled in this newsletter, on the ground in Zambia throughout the collaboration with the University of Zambia.



Mary Kasule recaps World Congress of Bioethics

Dr. Mary Kasule, who currently serves as part of the African Bioethics Consortium leadership team and works as Assistant Director of Research Ethics at the University of Botswana (UB), presented a poster at the 2016 World Congress. Dr. Kasule is also an alumna of the IRENSA Fogarty program. Working with the Global Bioethics theme, her poster was titled: "Practical and ethical challenges posed in obtaining parental informed consent for HIV clinical trials research with

pediatric patients: A case of Botswana." In [an interview](#) from The Philosopher's Eye blog, Dr. Kasule called the conference "amazing and successful" and described the many inspirational lectures and posters that she encountered in Edinburgh. Her poster presentation turned out to be a major success, as she lost count of the number of attendees who viewed the poster and talked with her about the research on informed consent and information disclosure in HIV studies with children.

FABTP awarded NIH G-11 grant for IRB strengthening in Zambia

Recently, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded the FABTP and University of Zambia a G-11 grant to improve the University of Zambia Biomedical Research Ethics Committee (UNZABREC). The project has the goal of Enhancing Management and Performance of the Office and Work of the Ethics committee for Research (EMPOWER) in Zambia.

The FABTP EMPOWER project to strengthen UNZABREC capacity in both ethical quality and administrative efficiency builds on and complements the strong research presence of Johns Hopkins University (JHU), not only in bioethics related collaborations but working

on research projects more broadly in Zambia. There are at least eleven different HIV-related studies, and multiple additional studies on other topics, on which JHU collaborates with colleagues in Zambia. These studies each require efficient and high quality, local ethics review - a goal our Zambian colleagues agree is both critical but currently only variably realized. There are three co-Principal Investigators (co-PIs) for this work: Drs. Nancy Kass and Adnan Hyder from JHU and Dr. Charles Michelo from UNZA. The three co-PIs will have shared responsibility for oversight of all aspects of training, capacity development and budget and will together serve as the Ex-

ecutive Committee for EMPOWER.

The NIH funding will allow the EMPOWER project to carry out several core program activities. EMPOWER will support one UNZABREC member or staff to attend a one month intensive program at JHU each year; this will be in addition to one person from UNZA supported by FABTP annually. EMPOWER will also support system evaluation, seminars and webinars.

Alumni Updates

Chris Mweemba '15

will attend the 6th annual session of Vanderbilt Institute in Research Development and Ethics in October 2016.



Paul Ndebele '01

was the plenary speaker on "Anticipatable Incidental Findings and the Dichotomy of resource Availability & the Responsibility of Researchers in Limited-Resource Settings" at a workshop sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease in September 2016.



Francis Masiye '06

was appointed Health Research Ethics Administrator for Stellenbosch University in Cape Town, South Africa in April 2016.



FABTP Summer 2016 Short-Term Trainees



In June, a cohort of five short-term trainees participated in the annual Fogarty African Bioethics Training Program and the Intensive Global Bioethics Training Program at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics. Over the course of the month, the short-term trainees from Botswana, Uganda, and Liberia completed intensive bioethics courses with Drs. Hyder, Kass, and Kahn and attended meetings at the US National Institutes of Health

(NIH), US Food & Drug Administration (FDA), and the US Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) alongside the long-term Fogarty trainees.

Short-term Fogarty Trainees

Erisa Mwaka (Makerere University, College of Health Sciences, Uganda)

Esther Seloilwe (School of Nursing, University of Botswana and Director, Centre for the Study of HIV & AIDS)

Global Bioethics Trainees

Curtis Taylor (UL-PIRE, University of Liberia)

Gloria Mason (National Research Ethics Board, Liberia)

Garfee Williams (USAID Collaborative Support for Health Program, Liberia)

Recent Publications

(FABTP alumni in bold)

[Bioethics Training Programmes for Africa: Evaluating Professional and Bioethics-related Achievements of African Trainees after a Decade of Fogarty NIH Investment.](#)

N.E. Kass, J. Ali, K. Hallez and A.A. Hyder, *BMJ Open* 6(9) (2016): e012758.

[Implementing Community Engagement for Combination Prevention: Lessons Learnt From the First Year of the HPTN 071 \(PopART\) Community-Randomized Study.](#)

M. Simwinga, V. Bond, N. Makola, G. Hoddinott, S. Belemu, R. White, K. Shanaube, J. Seeley, and A. Moore. *Current HIV/AIDS Reports* (2016): 1-8.

[Ethical Challenges in Designing and Conducting Medicine Quality Surveys.](#)

P. Taberner, M. Parker, R. Ravinotto, S. Phanouvong, S. Yeung, **F. E. Kitutu**, P. Yeong Cheah, M. Mayxay, P. J. Guerin, and P. N. Newton. *Tropical Medicine & International Health* 21, no. 6 (2016): 799-806.

[Obtaining Informed Consent for Genomics Research in Africa: Analysis of H3Africa Consent Documents.](#)

N. S. Munung, P. Marshall, M. Campbell, K. Littler, **F. Masiye**, O. Ouwé-Missi-Oukem-Boyer, J. Seeley, D. J. Stein, **P. Tindana**, and J. De Vries. *Journal of Medical Ethics* (2015): medethics-2015.

2016 Trainee Practica

Joseph Zulu

Adolescent Post-abortion Care Research in Zambia: A Review of Ethical Challenges and International Guidelines (Mentor: Dr. Adnan A. Hyder)



Dolly Ntseane

Adapting Online Training Modules in Research Ethics to the Context of the University of Botswana (Mentor: Dr. Nancy Kass)



Imelda Namagembe

Ethical Challenges Encountered in Emergency Obstetrics-Care Research by Researchers and Institutional Review Board Members: A Case Study of Mulago Hospital and Makerere College of Health Sciences, Uganda (Mentor: Dr. Adnan Hyder)



Contact us: www.fabtp.com

Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics

Deering Hall

1809 Ashland Avenue

Baltimore, Maryland 21205, USA

Phone: 1-410-614-5370

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Our partners

