

South African DST/NRF Research Chair Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine



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## Masters' Fellowship in Immunology

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a **Masters Research fellowship** in Immunology hosted by the research group of Professor Graeme Meintjes within the Clinical Infectious Disease Research Initiative (CIDRI) at UCT's Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine (IDM). The research will involve the analyses of cellular interactions between antigen presenting cells (APC) and mucosal-associated invariant T (MAIT) cells, and how HIV, TB and HIV-TB co-infection affect these interactions.

Applicants are required to have:

- Completed a 4 year degree (Honours equivalent) in Molecular Biology or Immunology, or related fields, with a minimum GPA of 65%
- Ability to register in January 2017 for full time study
- Computer literacy and excellent communication skills,
- Willingness to learn new research skills and methodologies

The research project will involve mainly peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) processing, multi-parameter Flow cytometry and Luminex cytokine/chemokine analysis. Specific experimental methods and activities include:

- Optimisation of multiple flow cytometry panels (up to 14 colours)
- Isolation and cryopreservation of PBMCs from whole blood
- Thawing of PBMCs and stimulation
- Staining of samples and acquisition on the flow cytometer
- Analyses of flow cytometry data by FlowJo
- Performing Luminex assays and analyses
- Writing reports, and manuscripts
- Presentation within the CIDRI research group and at local and potentially international conferences

The student will be supervised by: Dr Muki Shey (<u>muki.shey@uct.ac.za</u>) and Professor Graeme Meintjes (<u>graeme.meintjes@uct.ac.za</u>)

## Value and tenure

The fellowship is valued at R150,000 per annum and is tenable for one year. Renewal for a second year will be contingent on satisfactory academic progress.

To apply, please **e-mail** a letter of motivation, full CV including details of any publications, conferences or other scholarly output, as well as undergraduate and post graduate transcripts and the contact details of 2 academic referees who have taught/supervised the applicant to Kathryn Wood (<u>kathryn.wood@uct.ac.za</u>). All applications should be clearly marked: "**Immunology Research Fellowship**" in the subject line. Application deadline is **14**<sup>th</sup> **December 2016**.

Applications will be considered on merit and UCT's policies on transformation and equity will be strongly adhered to, with preference given to a black South African candidate.

The successful candidate will be required to register as an MSc student and comply with the policies and practices for postgraduate students at the University of Cape Town.

The University reserves the right to cancel, withdraw and recover any funds paid out to award-holders who do not comply with the Conditions of Award.