INTERNATIONAL ELECTIVES
FOR STUDENTS & RESIDENTS

International Electives Brochure 2019
in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry

Global Health Program
GHFoMD@ualberta.ca

Updated: October 16, 2019
Table of Contents

**Shadow Electives for All Students -- Including First Year Students:** ................................................................. 3

- **Shanghai, China (Fudan University)** ........................................................................................................ 3
- **Tamale, Ghana (University of Development Studies)** ................................................................................ 3
- **Chongqing, China** ..................................................................................................................................... 4
- **Jinja Referral Hospital and/or Kambuga District Hospital** ....................................................................... 4
- **Kathmandu, Nepal (Patan Academy of Health Sciences)** ......................................................................... 4

**Clinical Electives for Second*, Third, Fourth Year Medical Students and Residents:** ................................. 6

- **Zhejiang University School of Medicine, Hangzhou, China** ................................................................. 6
- **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (St. Paul’s Hospital)** .......................................................................................... 6
- **Hawassa, Ethiopia (Hawassa University)** ............................................................................................. 6
- **Kathmandu, Nepal (Patan Academy of Health Sciences)** .................................................................... 7
- **Mbarara, Uganda (Mbarara University)** ............................................................................................... 8
- **Kampala, Uganda (Makerere University)** .......................................................................................... 8
- **Nairobi, Kenya (Aga Khan University)** ............................................................................................... 9
- **Taiwan** .................................................................................................................................................. 10
- **University of the West Indies (Trinidad)** ............................................................................................ 10
- **Peru – In development** .......................................................................................................................... 11
- **Philippines (Philippines General Hospital) – In development** ............................................................... 11

**Funding for International Field Station Electives:** ......................................................................................... 12
International Electives for Students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry

For more information about the Field Stations or about applications for electives, please contact ghfomd@ualberta.ca

**Shadow Electives for All Students -- Including First Year Students:**

**Shanghai, China (Fudan University)**

Note: 14 students required to register in order for this elective to be a go.

Electives available:
Classroom based (3 weeks)
Shadowing opportunities integrated into elective (1 week)

Elective Fee: $1600
Application Fee: TBD
Visa:  [China Visa Details Link](#)
Accommodations: To follow.

Description: This is a 4-week course in July each year that has been developed in collaboration with the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. A course outline is available for interested students each year in November. This can be requested from the Global Health Program Office at ghfomd@ualberta.ca. The course is open to students in all health professional faculties.

There is a focus on social determinants of health and comparative health systems analysis. There will be opportunities for shadowing in a hospital that integrates traditional Chinese medicine with allopathic medicine. Students from Fudan University also participate in this course.

Further Updates: None at this time
Timing of Elective: July 2020 (precise dates awaiting confirmation from Fudan University)

**Tamale, Ghana (University of Development Studies)**
*(Note: Runs every 2nd Year – offered in Summer 2020, 2022 etc.)*

Electives available:
Classroom based
Possible Shadowing at the hospital

Elective Fee: TBD
Visa: must be obtained prior to arrival for C$65
Accommodations: To follow.

Description: This is a formal music and health promotion course developed by Dr. Michael Frishkopf, Faculty of Arts that is open to students in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. A syllabus will be available. Discussions with the medical school at UDS are underway and it is anticipated that there will be opportunities to shadow in the...
hospital in Tamale as part of this course.

For information about previous similar courses in the Faculty of Arts, please visit: Ghana: Program Overview. Note that there is a significant health promotion through music component to this course.

Timing of Elective: July/August (5-6 weeks)
Further Updates: None at this time

Chonqing, China

Electives Available:
Research Assistant on maternal health project

Elective Fee: TBD
Visa: must be obtained prior to arrival
Accommodations: To follow

Description: This is an opportunity for a Mandarin-speaking student to be involved in a maternal health project with local Chinese researchers with oversight by Dr. D. Olson from the University of Alberta. The overall study is inquiring into antecedents to pre-term labor.

More details to follow by November/December 2019.
Timing of Elective: June/July

Jinja Referral Hospital and/or Kambuga District Hospital

Electives available:
Focus on malaria – academic & clinical

Elective fee: $US 400/month
Visa: 3-month visa issued on arrival at the airport for US$50
Accommodation: To follow

Description: This overseas elective focuses on childhood malaria. Clinical and academic activities are designed to rapidly increase expertise in the diagnosis and treatment of uncomplicated and severe malaria, as well as some public health aspects. Malaria is the most common reason for admission to the Jinja Regional Referral Hospital (JRRH), and trainees will benefit from a high volume of cases, including severe malaria cases. FoMD Faculty member, Dr. Michael Hawkes, facilitates this elective.

Kathmandu, Nepal (Patan Academy of Health Sciences)

Electives available:
Public Health Research elective (Note: there is room for only 1 and at the most 2 students/year for this elective. No other electives are available for first year students at Patan)
Elective Fee: $US TBD/month
Visa: 60-day visa issued upon arrival for US$30
Accommodations: Accommodation is not available at the hospital. Patan can give students the contact information for a person who can arrange accommodations. Students must inform Patan one month prior to your arrival if they wish to have assistance with accommodations. Accommodations are reasonably priced, comfortable and close to the hospital.

Description: In this non-clinical field station, students will collaborate with the Patan Academy of Health Sciences to complete medical rotations and learn about its innovative medical curriculum. Previous students have been very satisfied with their experiences at PAHS. Given language issues and the clinical load of many preceptors, much of this elective will be shadowing and observation.
**Clinical Electives for Second*, Third, Fourth Year Medical Students and Residents:**
(*students who have completed their second academic year of medical school)

**Zhejiang University School of Medicine, Hangzhou, China**

Electives available:
Elective of the students’ choice

Elective Fee: none
Visa: [China Visa Details Link](#)
Accommodations: To follow.

Description: Nominated students may suggest their choice of electives to the Host Institution through Dr. Tracy Hillier, UME Electives Coordinator ([thillier@ualberta.ca](mailto:thillier@ualberta.ca)). The Host Institution has the right to change what elective is offered if the circumstances beyond their reasonable control lead to the original elective no longer being available.

Further Updates: None at this time

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (St. Paul’s Hospital)**

Electives available:
Maternal Health

Elective Fee: None
Visa: 1-month visa issued upon airport arrival for US$20
Accommodations: To follow.

Description: This field station is based on a strong partnership with St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College. There is currently a Government of Canada funded maternal, neonatal and child health project underway there with Canadian faculty regularly travelling to Addis Ababa for the project. Opportunities in obstetrics & gynecology as well as pediatrics are possible. To date, only residents have undertaken electives here. Reports from residents indicate that students they had observed from other countries were only allowed to shadow while on rotation here.

UPDATES: There has been significant instability in Ethiopia since 2018. The Global Affairs Program will continue to monitor the situation. Learners will not be assigned to Ethiopia unless it is deemed safe to travel there.

**Hawassa, Ethiopia (Hawassa University)**

Electives available:
Range of possibilities in core disciplines

Elective Fee: TBD
Visa: 1-month visa issued upon airport arrival for US$20
Accommodations: To follow.
Description: This is a new field station that has not yet had learners from the University of Alberta. In discussions with individuals in the medical school there, it is anticipated that there will be opportunities in a number of disciplines.

UPDATE: There has been significant instability in Ethiopia since 2018. The Global Affairs Program will continue to monitor the situation. Learners will not be assigned to Ethiopia unless it is deemed safe to travel there.

**Kathmandu, Nepal (Patan Academy of Health Sciences)**

Electives available:
- General Medicine
- General Surgery
- Emergency & Out-Patient Dept.
- Pediatrics
- Orthopedics
- Obstetrics & Gynecology

Elective Fee: $US 400/month ($US100/week)
Visa: 60 day visa issued upon arrival for US$30
Accommodations: Accommodation is not available at hospital premises. Patan can give students the contact information for a person who can arrange accommodations. Students must inform Patan one month prior to your arrival if they wish to have assistance with accommodations. Accommodations are reasonably priced, comfortable and close to the hospital.

Description: In this clinical field station, students will collaborate with the Patan Academy of Health Sciences to complete medical rotations and learn about its innovative medical curriculum. Previous students have been very satisfied with their experiences at PAHS. Given language issues and the clinical load of many preceptors, much of this elective will be shadowing and observation.

Patan Hospital’s [Application form link](#), please fill out and return to the Global Health Program.

Work week is 5 days a week (8:00am - 4:00pm, Saturday and Wednesday - remains closed). Students must agree to comply with the department and hospital rules and regulations. There will not be vacation during your elective posting.

Patan needs a recommendation letter from the U of A in support of the student’s elective. It can be sent electronically prior to arrival or submitted upon arrival.

The elective course here consists of observation only (i.e. shadowing senior doctors). Students will however, have the opportunity to attend the weekly department conferences and grand rounds that is held every Friday morning and also access to library including Internet service.

The hospital does not provide any insurance benefits (medical/otherwise).
Students are encouraged to bring a white coat which must be worn in the hospital. Patan will arrange for students to have one if they do not provide their own.

Previous student’s comments:
“I thoroughly enjoyed my time in Nepal and learned a lot about medicine, both inside and outside the hospital. There are many things that I think both institutions can learn from each other. This starts with an open communication and exchange between students and staff at both institutions. These student exchanges and partnerships are one of the best way to share ideas and improve ourselves in the future. Most importantly, they help to contribute to a globally healthy community.”

“My experience here is Nepal has been amazing, and it has definitely increased my interest in hopefully becoming involved in Global Health projects in the future!!”

**Mbarara, Uganda (Mbarara University)**

Electives available:
Internal Medicine
Pediatrics
Obstetrics and Gynecology
Pharmacy
Anesthesia
Surgery
Psychiatry
Research Project
Community Based Education Research and Service

Elective Fee:  None
Visa:  3-month visa issued upon airport arrival for US$50
Accommodations:  To follow.

Description:  In this clinical field station, students will complete rotations through the Mbarara University of Science and Technology. In 2018, Mbarara changed its offerings for foreign students with timing that did not coincide with the availability of FoMD 2nd year students. The Global Health Program is awaiting confirmation of the dates for summer of 2020.

Updates:

Mbarara University’s [Application form link](#), please fill out and return to the Global Health Program.

**Kampala, Uganda (Makerere University)**

Electives available:
Family Medicine Internal Medicine Other possibilities

Elective Fee:  None
Visa:  3-month visa issued upon airport arrival for US$50
Accommodations:  To follow
Description: In this field station, students will complete clinical rotations through the Makerere University Medical School. Experiences of past learners at Makerere have been very positive.

Updates: None

*Aga Khan University Nairobi, Kenya*

Electives available:
- Cardiology
- Family Medicine
- Other possibilities

Elective Fee: None

Visa: All non-Kenyan medical students are required to have an internship pass which is issued by the immigration department. This internship pass takes a minimum of 90 working days to process. Most of the times, it takes longer. A 3-month is visa issued upon arrival for US$50/US$20 at Nairobi Airport/US$10 7-day transit

Accommodations: To follow.

Details about the station: Students will be placed in rotations through the Aga Khan University in Nairobi.

There have not been learners at the Aga Khan to date. However, a recent trip by faculty members has confirmed that there is significant interest in hosting learners from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. Members of the FoMD assisted AKU in setting up a cardiology program. There was also a group of faculty members who assisted AKU in developing an undergraduate medical program.

Aga Khan University Hospital Nairobi Application form link, please return to the Global Health Program. Medical students are most welcome to spend time here but please let us know the exact dates you wish to start and also in which departments you wish to work in. This is a large multidisciplinary private hospital with four major departments:- Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics & Child Health and Obstetrics/Gynecology. The Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi is a 280 bed multidisciplinary Private Hospital with services in the following major departments: Medicine, Surgery, Paediatrics & Childhealth and Obstetrics & Gynaecology. It also provides out-patient services in both the Emergency Room and in the Outpatient Specialty Clinics. The hospital also has a 24 hour children’s walk-in centre adjacent to the Paediatric ward, Executive suites where patients are admitted as “Guests”, new modern laboratory and state of art physiotherapy with hydrotherapy pool the first of its kind in the East and Central Africa. The elective student is basically accepted at the Hospital to acquire experience in patient management under the supervision of the full range of the Hospital team of doctors (Consultants, Faculty and Residents) as may be reasonably required of them. Generally, students are encouraged to distribute their elective periods in the four departments, with a minimum of three weeks in any department. Please note that we have very limited space due to the high demand/requests from local and international medical students to rotate at our hospital. As such, the schedule below has been devised to assist students plan their rotations. Please try and fit your rotation in the schedule below. Dates/ Months Category of students January to March International Students April to May Local students June to September International Students October to December Local students (University of Nairobi medical students)

Updates: None
Taiwan

Electives available:
Emergency

Elective Fee: None  
Visa: Not required for 90 days  
Accommodations: To follow

Description: This partnership with Chang Gung Memorial Hospital and University invites students to complete rotations in emergency medicine. It is helpful if students speak Mandarin as most patients speak only Mandarin and many lectures/rounds are conducted in Mandarin. Many of the Taiwanese teachers and students speak English so it has been possible for non-Mandarin speakers to undertake this elective but the value is very dependent on having a fellow student from UAlberta or from Taiwan willing to assist with translation.

This is a well-organized elective that is highly rated by learners who have gone in the past. Accommodation and information about how to get to the elective are available prior to the commencement of the elective.

Updates: None

Previous students’ comments:
“It has been a great learning experience so far! In the few days we have been in pediatrics, diseases that are more common to the Asian populations such as Kawasaki, Thalassemia, and Enterovirus 71 are seen in the ER more frequently. In the adult ER, there are a few unique presentations that can be seen such as acute kidney injury due to Chinese medicinal products and oral cancer due to betal nuts. Because of the large number of patients that are treated in the ER, we also had the opportunity to see numerous presentations that are common to Canada, such as strokes, MI, and PE, a lot more frequently throughout the day than we would back home. “

“Everyone I met in Taiwan was extremely friendly and open to explaining things. It was a very enjoyable and educational experience, and I would recommend other students shadow at VGH.”

Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad

Electives available:
Obstetrics & Gynaecology  
Immunology  
Orthopaedics  
Haematology  
Radiology  
Community Health  
Paediatrics  
Anaesthesiology  
General Surgery  
Adult Medicine  
Ophthalmology
Paediatrics Emergency Medicine
ENT (Otorhinolaryngology)
Psychiatry

Fees: Application fee: $50 USD (waived if choosing to attend Cave Hill, Mona or Bahamas campuses instead of St. Augustine campus of the University of West Indies), once accepted into elective $100 USD/week.

Visa:

Accommodations: To Follow

Description: This is a new partnership. UWI Trinidad’s medical school offers visiting clinical medical students a 4 – 16 week elective. The main medical hospital at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Mt. Hope is geared to provide both generalist and specialist medical and surgical services. The facility has over 200 beds and a wide variety of consultant physicians who provide clinical services and teaching for students. There are several wards for adult medicine and surgery and child health, a women’s hospital, psychiatric unit and priority care/emergency medicine. There are also 3 blocks of clinical research laboratories in close proximity to the wards.

The Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex also has generous ambulatory health care facilities, thirteen (13) operating theatres, nuclear medicine, CAT Scanning and other radiological facilities, as well as provisions for specialised areas of functional analysis, Intensive Care Units, out-patient clinics and Accident and Emergency Units. The Medical Library at Mount Hope is part of The University of West Indies Library system, and has extensive holdings of books and manuscripts in all aspect of medicine.

In addition, the Faculty also uses the Port of Spain General Hospital and the San Fernando General Hospital as additional teaching hospitals for our students. Both hospitals are fully staffed and equipped for teaching clinical students as well as post-graduate students. Other campuses at the University of West Indies are Cave Hill, Mona and Bahamas campuses. Students are to indicate on their application if they wish to attend their elective at one of these campuses.

Due to the number of applications received, students are encouraged to apply at least 6 months before the start of the elective. Students can apply for an elective in one or two specialty areas, provided each placement is at least 4 weeks in duration. Doing 2 electives in the same period has to be approved by the elective coordinator before processing can begin. Such requests should be specified when submitting documents. Placement of elective students is on a first come, first served basis. Applications are processed once the application fee is received. Please allow for 7-10 working days after reception of fees for confirmation email. Elective applications in the Faculty of Medical Sciences are coordinated in liaison with the various heads of departments. There is therefore a time lag between application and response. Students will be advised of the outcome of their application usually within 10-12 weeks of its receipt. The name of the Head of Department and/or preceptor will be included in the notification of acceptance.

Peru – In development

Philippines (Philippines General Hospital) – In development
Funding for International Field Station Electives:

All undergrad medical students are eligible for the travel bursary from the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry through the Division of Community Engagement, if the following criteria are met:

1) The student must be a current undergraduate in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry.
2) The student will take a clinical or non-clinical elective of at least four weeks in duration.
3) The student is going to one of our Field stations and apply by the deadline.
4) The elective is in a low-medium resource-limited or culturally special setting outside of continental North America.
5) Consideration will only be given to students who have attended the 12-Hour Global Health Elective prior to an overseas elective (need only to take once during medical school) as well as the pre-departure training program.
6) An application, including a travel budget, sent to ghfomd@ualberta.ca on or before the deadline.
7) A report in the form of a poster upon completion of the elective for the Global Health Fair (January).

Amounts vary from year to year.

More Information about Grants, Scholarships and Bursaries go to: Funding for GH Electives.xlsx

To sign up to receive the Global Health Weekly please click on the following link: https://www.mynewsletterbuilder.com/tools/subscription.php?username=ghf0md&send_id=584890b7241752070c000001&l=s&newsletter_id=1412810172

To join our bi-weekly Global Health Rounds go to this link.