1. ADVERTISEMENT

We are seeking to appoint a Research fellow/Lecturer in Medical Entomology to project manage a team involved in the development and evaluation of new tools for malaria vector control, particularly new types long lasting insecticidal nets LLIN, combination nets, and long lasting indoor residual spray formulations for the control of insecticide resistant malaria vectors. The project is based at the LSHTM/KCMUCo field site in Moshi, Tanzania, in collaboration with the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College KCMUCo. This position is key to the development of the next generation of malaria control tools essential to the eventual elimination of malaria.

The Project Manager will oversee a series of complex insecticide trials including phase 1 insecticide testing, phase 2 experimental hut field trials, with assessment of impact against insecticide resistant mosquito populations. The main projects will be supported by grants from the Innovative Vector Control Consortium IVCC.

As member of the LSHTM group of medical entomologists, field scientists, and molecular technologists there will be opportunity to participate in community trials of new types of vector control product (combination LLIN, IRS and durable wall lining) against malaria vector populations in projects supported by USAID, WHO, DFID/Wellcome_Trust/MRC.

The Project Manager will be responsible for liaising with project partners including LSHTM, KCMUCo, the Innovative Vector Control Consortium and product manufacturers, and for preparing technical reports and publications.

The successful candidate must hold a PhD in entomology or Msc with several years experience in a similar position and have substantial experience of working in a developing country on vector research or control. The applicant will be based at KCMUCo in Moshi, Tanzania with travel to the UK for project meetings 4-6 times per year.

The post is available from 1 December 2013 until 31 December 2015 with strong prospect of renewal as the portfolio of products from the IVCC expands. The salary will be on the Academic Pathway Research Fellow (grade 6) or Lecturer (grade 7). The salary for the Research Fellow grade 6 is from £36,018 - £40,904 per annum. The salary for the Lecturer grade 7 is from £42,043 – £48,129 per annum. Appointment of salary will normally be at the minimum of the grade. Please state clearly on your application which role you are applying for.

Applications should be made on-line via our website at http://jobs.lshtm.ac.uk. The reference for this post is MRTaz. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10:00pm on 11 December 2013. Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if shortlisted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is committed to being an equal opportunities employer.
2. GENERAL INFORMATION

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is a world-leading centre for research and postgraduate education in public health. Part of the University of London, the School is the largest institution of its kind in Europe with a remarkable depth and breadth of expertise encompassing many disciplines. The School was recently cited as one of the top three institutions in the UK for research impact, and one of the top five in the world for collaborative research (Leiden Rankings 2013). In 2009, the School became the first UK institution to win the Gates Award for Global Health.

The School’s environment is a rich multicultural one: there are around 3500 students from 100+ countries following 24 taught masters courses delivered either in London or through distance learning, and about 400 undertaking a research degree. Over 40% of these students are from non-European countries. Alumni are working in more than 180 countries. The School has about 1600 staff drawn from over 74 nationalities.

There are research collaborations with over 100 countries throughout the world, utilizing our critical mass of multidisciplinary expertise which includes clinicians, epidemiologists, statisticians, social scientists, economists, molecular biologists, immunologists, ophthalmologists, anthropologists, virologists, pharmacologists and nutritionists. At any one time around 100 School staff are based overseas, particularly in Africa and Asia. We have a strong commitment to partnership with institutions in low and middle income countries to support the development of teaching and research capacity.

The School has expanded greatly in recent years. Its research funding now exceeds £67M per annum, much of it from highly competitive national and international sources. It is home to numerous multidisciplinary centres, research groups and collaborative partnerships, in areas as diverse as malaria, tuberculosis, maternal, adolescent, reproductive and child health, mathematical modelling, non-communicable diseases, global mental health, epidemiology and evaluation of public health interventions. Our research contributes to health policy and practice in the UK and around the world.

Mission
To improve health and health equity in the UK and worldwide; working in partnership to achieve excellence in public and global health research, education and translation of knowledge into policy and practice.

Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases

The Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases encompasses all of the laboratory-based research in the School as well as that on the clinical and epidemiological aspects of infectious and tropical diseases. It is headed by Simon Croft, who is Professor of Parasitology. The range of disciplines represented in the faculty is very broad and inter-disciplinary research is a feature of much of our activity. The spectrum of diseases studied is wide and there are major research groups with a focus on malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, vaccine development and evaluation, and vector biology and disease control. The Faculty is organised into four large research departments comprising: Pathogen Molecular Biology, Immunology and Infection, Disease Control, and Clinical Research. There is close interaction between scientists in different research teams. The Faculty has strong overseas links, which provide a basis for field studies and international collaborations in developed and developing countries. The teaching programme includes MSc courses, taught in-house and by distance learning, which are modular in structure, a variety of short-courses and an active doctoral programme (PhD and DrPH).
Department of Disease Control (Head: Professor Mark Rowland)

This multidisciplinary Department includes epidemiologists, entomologists, anthropologists and social scientists, clinical scientists, public health engineers and geographers. This range of expertise provides us with a battery of tools for focusing on the control of diseases that are insect-borne, water-borne or associated with poor hygiene – mostly in developing countries. Much of the research can be categorised as: evaluating disease control interventions; investigating implementation strategies - including working with the private sector; understanding the factors underlying household behaviour in relation to family health; or determining how control resources can be targeted most efficiently. Particular attention is paid to research directed at current health policy issues, including the gap between policy and practice.

The Department's Environmental Health Group plays a leadership role in research and operational support for hygiene behaviour change, household water supply and sanitation. Three key programmes which contribute to the work of the Group are the DFID funded consortium Sanitation and Hygiene Applied Research for Equity (SHARE), the Hygiene Centre (Unilever) and the improved sanitation randomised, controlled field trial jointly funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie).

The Department houses the largest research group in LSHTM working on malaria control. Ongoing projects include: research capacity strengthening in Africa through the work of the Malaria Capacity Development Consortium (MCDC); novel approaches to combating malaria in pregnancy (MiP) in both Africa and India; a number of projects which develop and evaluate delivery mechanisms to improve ACT access, targeting, safety and quality, all funded by the ACT Consortium. In addition, staff are involved in studies of Seasonal Malaria Chemoprevention (SMC) in West Africa and are supporting work on the large Phase 3 clinical trial study of the RTS,S malaria vaccine in children.

The Department is world-leading in applied entomology and insect borne diseases, and has provided a testing service for control products for over 20 years. The Arthropod Control Product Test Centre Arctec provides access to the Department’s valuable mosquito colonies and in-house facilities for testing of repellents, insecticides and after-bite treatments. Its entomological field sites in Tanzania, Benin, The Gambia and Kenya are involved in a variety of vector borne disease control trials. The PAMVERC alliance between LSHTM and African partners work in partnership with WHO and the manufacturing industry on product development and evaluation under laboratory and semi-field conditions and in community trials.

Staff from the Department lead on studies investigating how meningococcal meningitis is spread in Africa and the impact of a new serogroup meningococcal A vaccine on reducing transmission (MenAfriCar Consortium). Staff are also assisting in the evaluation of the impact of introduction of a pneumococcal conjugate vaccine into the routine EPI programme of The Gambia and in the initial testing of a new pneumococcal protein vaccine in the same area.

Also based with the Department is the IDEAS (Informed Decisions for Actions) project, which aims to improve the health and survival of mothers and babies through generating evidence to inform policy and practice. The Department also includes a major grouping of researchers using spatial analysis in public health.

Teaching

The School offers 19 one year full-time taught courses leading to the Master of Science (MSc) degree of the University of London and the Diploma of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (DLSHTM). The Faculty of Infectious and Tropical Diseases runs or contributes substantially to ten of these courses and the “Immunology of Infectious Diseases” course is run from within the Department of Immunology and Infection. In addition, the Faculty is responsible for the three-month Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (DTM&H), the Diploma in Tropical Nursing
and offers a range of specialist short courses lasting usually one or two weeks. Five MSc courses are also offered by Distance-based Learning, including one on Infectious Diseases.

Teaching requirements

For Research Assistants and Research Fellows:

To contribute to the Faculty teaching programme, up to 10% of your time per annum, subject to the policy of any funding agency (by agreement, some staff may make a greater contribution than this).

For Lecturers and above:

To contribute to the Faculty teaching programme, up to 15% of your time per annum, subject to the policy of any funding agency (by agreement, some staff may make a greater contribution than this).

Research Training

The School offers two doctoral training programmes. The MPhil/PhD degrees are designed for those who wish to go on to a full time research career. The DrPH is directed towards those who expect their careers to be more in the practice of public health.

3. JOB DESCRIPTION

Post: LSHTM Project Manager for the development and evaluation of new malaria vector control tools, Tanzania

Grade: Research Fellow / Lecturer

Responsible to: Mark Rowland

Department: Disease Control Department

Main duties and responsibilities:

To manage a research project on the development and evaluation of the next generation of the vector control products, supported by the Innovative Vector Control Consortium (IVCC):

Research activities:

- To supervise complex insecticide research trials to GLP and World Health Organisation standards involving phase 1 laboratory testing and phase 2 experimental hut trials.
- To process and analyse entomology samples for species identification and insecticide resistance markers (providing support to the LSHTM/KCMUCO laboratory technologists).
- To manage of an insectary for high-capacity rearing of mosquitoes to GLP standards.
- To develop and improve testing procedures for testing insecticides with new modes of action.
- To prepare weekly schedules and supervise/monitor mosquito testing.
• To conduct staff training on testing procedures and to work with quality assurance manager to achieve testing to GLP standards.
• To process all data for sharing in monthly teleconferences.
• To prepare manuscripts for publication in journals.
• To present research findings at national and international conferences.
• To participate in and provide technical support to other PAMVERC community malaria/vector control project projects based in Tanzania, funded by USAID, MRC/Wellcome Trust, WHO.
• To participate in proposal preparation.
• To draft project budgets and ensure projects are run to budget.

Interaction with Project Donors and PAMVERC partners:
• To give monthly presentations of results to project partners, product manufacturers and IVCC during monthly teleconferences.
• To prepare 6-monthly reports and present results to an external scientific committee meetings.

Teaching and mentoring:
• To teach on LSHTM courses arranged at KCMUCo such as DTM&H.
• To supervise LSHTM and KCMUCO PhD students assigned to PAMVERC IVCC projects.
• To develop research protocols and co-supervise MSc students from LSHTM and KCMUCO, and oversee data collection, analysis and thesis/paper writing.
• To contribute to the Faculty teaching programme, (for Research Fellows up to 10% of your time per annum and 15% for Lecturers), subject to the policy of any funding agency (by agreement, some staff may make a greater contribution than this).

4. PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential Requirements
• PhD in entomology or MSc with several years experience in a similar position.
• Substantial experience of working in a developing country on vector research or control.
• Experience of managing complex insecticide trials to GLP or World Health Organisation standards involving phase 1 laboratory testing and phase 2 experimental huts.
• Experience of insectary management.
• A record of managing and supervising research teams, plus general project management.
• Capacity to technically train staff on entomological and laboratory testing procedures.
• Experience of data management and analysis
• Capacity to process all data and to communicate findings in monthly teleconferences.
• Evidence of project reporting to high standard and good publishing record in scientific journals.

Desirable Requirements
• Experience of managing phase 3 household and cluster randomised trials of vector control interventions.
• Experience of collaborating with (or working in) the private sector on vector control product development and evaluation.
Laboratory experience and capacity to process and analyse entomological samples for species identification and insecticide resistance markers.

Experience of teaching to MSc level and supervision of MSc projects.

Budgeting and finance management.

Knowledge of Kiswahili is an advantage.

For appointment at AP7 Lecturer the following essential criteria will be required in addition to the above

- Completed and published scientific papers from a doctoral degree
- Significant supervision and management of research teams based overseas
- Strong evidence of running research projects independently, generating research ideas, and securing grant funding
- International research profile

5. SALARY AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

The post is available from 1 December 2013 and the contract will end on 31 December 2015. The salary will be on the Academic Pathway Research Fellow (grade 6) or Lecturer (grade 7). The salary for the Research Fellow grade 6 is from £36,018 – £40,904 per annum. The salary for the Lecturer grade 7 is from £42,043 – £48,129 per annum. Appointment of salary will normally be at the minimum of the grade. Please state clearly on your application which role you are applying for. Annual leave entitlement is 30 working days per year for all staff (pro-rata for part-time staff). In addition to this there are 6 fixed-date "Director's Days".

6. APPLICATIONS

Applications should be made on-line via our website at http://jobs.lshtm.ac.uk. The reference for this post is MRTaz. Online applications will be accepted by the automated system until 10:00pm on 11 December 2013. The supporting statement section should set out how your qualifications, experience and training meet each of the selection criteria. Please provide one or more paragraphs addressing each criterion. The supporting statement is an essential part of the selection process and thus a failure to provide this information will mean that the application will not be considered. An answer to any of the criteria such as “Please see attached CV” will not be considered acceptable.

Applications should also include the names and email contacts of 2 referees who can be contacted immediately if shortlisted. Any queries regarding the application process may be addressed to jobs@lshtm.ac.uk.

Please note that if you are shortlisted and are unable to attend on the interview date it may not be possible to offer you an alternative date.

The London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine is committed to being an equal opportunities employer.