



# Global Public Health

*Mangochi, Malawi*

May 31 – August 10, 2019

Through the Fellowships for Global Citizenship program, the CPGC is offering three summer internship placements in Malawi. Bi-Co students with a demonstrated interest in global health are invited to apply.

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

**Kwenderana** (“Exchange”) is an experiential educational partnership between the CPGC, the Program in Health Studies, and the Department of Public Health at the University of Livingstonia, a private tertiary institution in Malawi. Internship placements are undertaken jointly by pairs of Bi-Co students and undergraduates from the University of Livingstonia. By emphasizing the bidirectional exchange of knowledge, perspectives, and experiences, Kwenderana seeks to challenge racialized hierarchies of expertise in public health and development and nurture close peer relationships that will form the basis for future collaborations. Toward that end, the partnership positions students from both institutions as *learners* rather than as helpers or volunteers. Kwenderana co-directors Anna West (Haverford) and Mary Sibande (Livingstonia) work closely with students, both on-site and remotely, to provide technical support for internship activities, facilitate structured reflection, and deepen links between classroom and experiential learning.

## 2019 PROGRAM STRUCTURE

A week-long **orientation** in Malawi introduces students to health systems, public health priorities, project cycles, and best practices for community-based participatory inquiry. Intensive instruction in a local language (Chichewa) is provided, along with opportunities for team-building and development of communication and problem-solving skills for communal living.

All internship placements are located in Mangochi, a small city in southeastern Malawi. Students are placed in pairs with the District Health Office and/or an international or local non-governmental organization (NGO). Interns undertake an **8-week community-based participatory project** to investigate and propose actions in a priority area identified by the organization. This may involve, for example, fine-tuning health promotion messages, seeking ways to improve the flow of information between health workers and communities, or identifying structural factors that affect program delivery and outcomes. Day-to-day activities involve a combination of rural fieldwork (including community consultations, participant observation, instrument design and collection of qualitative and/or quantitative data), document review and independent reading about the project and site, observation of district and NGO activities, data analysis, report writing, and presentation of findings and recommendations.

The thematic focus of the placements varies depending on district priorities and NGO project cycles. Likely themes for 2019 include nutrition, water and sanitation, non-communicable diseases, and disability, among others. Short-listed applicants will have the opportunity to rank their areas of interest at the interview stage.

Students live in shared accommodation in the district center (Mangochi town), where water and electricity are available although erratic. Students will use public transportation to make regular daytrips to their rural project sites. Most intern pairs will choose to organize overnight stays with rural hosts during one or more periods of intense data collection and community consultation.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Participants can expect to...

- Become familiar with the everyday work of community-based health promotion, the organization of health services in Malawi, and the technical content of a particular area of public health.
- Develop skills in the area of community-based inquiry, using participatory qualitative and quantitative methods to produce knowledge for action.
- Gain critical perspective on the practices, activities, and cultures of global health and development through interaction with public sector and civil society actors and beneficiary communities.
- Deepen their understanding of and capacity for global citizenship by living and working closely with peers whose life experiences, cultural norms, educational pathways, financial circumstances, and opportunities for mobility differ from their own.

## NUTS AND BOLTS

**Eligibility and Application Information:** This internship is open to Haverford and Bryn Mawr students. Applicants must submit an application form, an unofficial transcript, and a recommendation form completed by a faculty member, and will take part in an interview with the decision committee.

**Qualifications:** A demonstrated interest in global public health, typically through previous coursework. Self-awareness, capacity for introspection, and ability to modulate one's behavior and self-presentation in response to new circumstances and cultural norms. A high degree of flexibility with regard to material surroundings, living conditions, food, privacy, and modes of transportation. Strong writing and oral communication skills. Preference will be given to Health Studies minors, students with previous course work in Africana Studies and/or international political economy, and juniors. Applications from exceptionally qualified sophomores will be considered. First year students may not apply.

**CPGC's Fellowships for Global Citizenship Program:** This internship is part of a larger framework that goes beyond just a summer grant. Fellows join a comprehensive program through which they receive full financial and personal development support to prepare for acting ethically and sensitively in unfamiliar environments; participate in summer internships at social change organizations around the world; and continue their journey through a re-entry course upon returning to campus in the fall. More specific information about these crucial elements of the Fellowship program can be found on the CPGC website.

**Interested applicants must meet with the Manager of International Programs, Stephanie Zukerman.**

**Prior to departure (April/May):** Fellows will be expected to attend meetings with their cohort to build connections with each other and their faculty mentor, and to begin the logistical and emotional preparation for living abroad, including receiving health advice from a travel doctor. **Fellows traveling to Malawi are required to participate in the Global Health track of the Haverford's Ethical Leadership Summer Institute (ELSI), May 19-24.** Full-time programming includes seminar discussions, reading and writing assignments, and alumni guest speakers. Housing and meals are provided.

**Stipend:** During the ten-week program, the CPGC will cover Fellows' expenses for food, flights and ground transportation, lodging, visas, and vaccinations. The CPGC will pay the Summer Earning Expectation for students who have the stipulation in their financial aid packages for 2019-20.

**Deadline:** The deadline to apply for this Fellowship is **Sunday, February 10, 2019** via the "Malawi Partnership" application on the CPGC's website. Selected applicants will be contacted for an interview in mid to late February.