Enterprise-OCTAVE Professional Development Workshop for Young and Early Career Investigators:
Grant Writing Course for African Scientists

04 - 10 December 2011 Cape Town, South Africa

The Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise and the OCTAVE Project (Online Collaborative Training for AIDS Vaccine Evaluation), in close collaboration with the Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and the HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN) are soliciting applications for a novel grant writing workshop for young and early career investigators (YECIs). This 7 day workshop offers a unique opportunity to doctoral-level trainees and post-doctoral investigators from the African continent within 10 years of completing their terminal degrees to complete an intensive workshop on grant development. Selected scholars will be matched and mentored by faculty experienced in grant writing.

Recent successes in the HIV prevention field, including male circumcision, antiretroviral-based prevention strategies (treatment as prevention, PrEP), and a partially effective vaccine regimen evaluated in Thailand have added excitement and urgency to the field. These successes have prompted many new questions that require attention. This multi-disciplinary learning opportunity will help YECIs translate high priority research questions and ideas into focused research proposals that can be used as the basis for future grant applications.

The objectives of this OCTAVE professional development workshop are to:
• acquire skills for designing and interpreting clinical research;
• produce a complete concise draft of a research protocol;
• help others in the class to develop these skills and protocols.

Since 2004, the OCTAVE Project has developed learning opportunities for YECIs that incorporate eLearning and interactive, face-to-face workshops. A customized web-portal will allow YECIs to access up-to-date learning resources in advance of the workshop in Cape Town on 04-10 December 2011.

This workshop is supported by the NIH Office of AIDS Research. The Capacity-Building Series is a program of the Global HIV Vaccine Enterprise, a unique alliance of independent organizations around the world dedicated to accelerating the development of a preventive HIV vaccine.

Approximately 10 to 15 scholars will be selected to participate. Air travel, ground transportation, meals and hotel accommodation in Cape Town will be provided through the workshop.

We encourage highly qualified young and early-career investigators from Africa to submit an online application here.

To apply, you will need to submit a CV, complete an application which requests an outline of your research proposal, and provide a letter of recommendation from an institutional official that certifies you can conduct the proposed research if you secure grant funding.

Deadline for application: 26 September 2011
Status for notification: 14 October 2011
Mandatory pre-orientation webinar: 24 October 2011
Workshop will be held in Cape Town, South Africa on: 04-10 December 2011

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