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The HIV Pathogenesis Programme (HPP) laboratory has opportunities for students who are interested in pursuing a Master of Medical Science (MMedSci) or Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree by research. The laboratory is located at the Doris Duke Medical Research Institute, Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal. Research projects are in the broad fields of HIV and TB pathogenesis (immunology, virology, host/pathogen interaction). Our laboratory emphasizes innovative exploratory research and training of predoctoral and postdoctoral researchers. Students will be directly supervised by faculty members, Dr Christina Tshabalala, Dr Michelle Gordon or Dr Zaza Ndhlovu. Prospective applicants should demonstrate familiarity with recent research publications by these researchers.

The MMedSci degree requires at least one year of study, at the end of which the candidate for the degree submits a dissertation that is subject to review by an external examiner. Full-time students must usually complete their degrees within three years, and publication of research findings in peer-reviewed journals is expected.

Interested applicants must meet the following minimum criteria:

- Holders of an Honours degree (for Masters) or Master's degree (for PhD applicants) in biomedical/biological sciences or an equivalent degree.
- Familiarity with basic principles in immunology, molecular biology, virology or human genetics.
- Excellent undergraduate academic record.
- Outstanding academic and character reference reports.
- Availability to work full-time in the laboratory.
- Excellent organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Prior work experience in biomedical research will be an advantage

#### **Application format**

Applicants are required to submit a one-page cover letter briefly describing their research interests, a detailed CV, highlighting their experience in each of the minimum requirements listed above, together with the name, telephone no. and fax no. or e-mail address of two referees who are available to comment on your academic and research competence or potential

Address your applications to Ms. Tarryn Leslie, HPP, Doris Duke Medical Research Institute, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Private Bag 7 Congella, Durban 4013, Fax No. 031 260 4036 or email [leslie@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:leslie@ukzn.ac.za) (Tel: 031 260 4763).

#### **Terms of appointment and selection process**

The positions will be offered in compliance with admission policies of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. A flat rate monthly stipend will be paid to the successful applicants for the duration of the study programme.

The selection process will commence in November 2016 and will continue until suitable candidates are appointed or a decision is taken not to fill the positions.

**Closing Date for applications: 31 October 2016**