Medical Education Partnership Initiative – Junior Faculty Program Progress Report

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The MEPI- Junior Faculty Program Goals

• College of Health Sciences (CHS) at Addis Ababa University (AAU), is the oldest, largest and most established health sciences college in Ethiopia

• Its three main missions are:
  • Teaching -Learning
  • Research and Publication
  • Community Service
The MEPI Junior Faculty Program Goals

• There were limited opportunities for long term research training

• Thus, the MEPI Junior Faculty Program was submitted in response to:

• RFA-TW-14-003, Research Training for Career Development of Junior Faculty in Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Institutions (D43)
The MEPI Junior Faculty Program Goals

• The Application was submitted in collaboration with;

  • Emory University
  • Johns Hopkins University and
  • University of Alabama at Birmingham
  • UW has joined the program in 2018
The MEPI Junior Faculty Program Goals

• The major goal of the program is

  • Upgrading research capacity at AAU in four disciplines that are strategic components of the AAU CHS development plan.
The MEPI Junior Faculty Program Goals

The four scientific area:

• (HIV/AIDS and related infections),
• Maternal and Child Health,
• Non-Communicable Diseases [ focusing on diabetes, cardiovascular conditions] and
• Mental Health
Objectives

• To build core capacity in research, focusing on the four selected areas

• To provide long-term didactic and mentored research and research training opportunities (over a period of 2 years)

• To continue to improve the research infrastructure and research support

• To strengthen graduate and certificate research training programs
Updates

• Project office was set up in September 2015

• Training Advisory Committee (TAC) established (chaired by the CED of the College)

• Established an Executive Committee composed of the four program leads and project leaders
Updates

• Announced call for application
  • October 2015- First Cohort
  • October 2016- Second Cohort
  • December 2017- Third Cohort

• Selection of 9 (first cohort), 8 (Second Cohort) and 8 (Third Cohort) Junior Faculty endorsed by the TAC
Updates

2nd AFREHealth Symposium
Updates- First Cohort

• Completed in country didactic courses
• One trainee dropped out
• All obtained IRB Approval
  • 7 on Data analysis stage
  • 1 on Data collection stage
Updates- First Cohort

• Courses Taken
  • Responsible Conduct of Research (Twice)- AAU
  • Fundamentals of Health Research- AAU
  • Health Care Leadership- AAU
  • Scientific Grant Writing- Emory University (On line)
  • Biostatistics –Emory University (Face to Face + Online)
  • Data Management- Emory University (Face to Face + Online)
Data Management and biostatistics training
Updates- First Cohort

• Journal Club Sessions
  • Conducted Seven monthly Journal Club sessions to the College community
    • 3 from NCD
    • 1 from Mental Health
    • 3 in MCH scientific area

• Three trainees presented their work at AFREhealth Conference in Accra, Ghana
• Two trainees will present their research work 2nd AFREHealth Symposium
• Three were involved in Grant Writing Workshop organized for 25 junior faculty of the College- further rounds planned before end of current program year
• 7 of them took clinical epidemiology – JHU
Journal Club Sessions
Updates- Second Cohort

• Completed in-country didactic courses
• Assigned International Mentors
• 6 have began data collection
• 5 (HIV/AIDS scientific area) are involved in the CD supplement grant.
Updates- Second Cohort

• Courses Taken
  • Biostatistics –Emory University (Face to Face + Online)
  • Data Management- Emory University (Face to Face + Online)
  • Responsible Conduct of Research- AAU
  • Fundamentals of Health Research- AAU
  • Health Care Leadership Training- AAU

2nd AFREHealth Symposium
Responsible conduct of research training
Updates- Second Cohort

• Journal Club Sessions
  • Conducted Seven monthly Journal Club sessions
    • 1 from NCD
    • 2 from HIV and Related Infections
    • 1 from MCH scientific area
Journal Club Sessions

2nd AFREHealth Symposium
Updates - Third Cohort

- Trainee Selection
  - 7 Female and 1 Male

- Courses in progress:
  - Biostat and Data Management Courses
  - Responsible Conduct of Research
  - Fundamentals of Health Research
  - Health care Leadership Training
  - Five –took part in an intensive English Writing and Presentation Skills Training
Updates- Third Cohort

One trainee will present her research work 2\textsuperscript{nd} AFREHealth Symposium
Achievements

Mentored research

• All but one of the first cohort scholars are finalizing their mentored research.
• All second cohort scholars revised their research proposal and obtained ethical clearance from College IRB.
• All third cohort scholars - their proposal is under review at the various levels of IRB approval process.
Achievements

Grant Applications by Cohort

- First Cohort: 5 Successful, 4 Unsuccessful
- Second Cohort: 2 Successful, 1 Unsuccessful
Achievements

Grant Applications by Scientific Area

- MH: Blue bar indicates successful applications, orange bar indicates unsuccessful applications.
- MCH: Both bars are blue, indicating only successful applications.
- NCD: Blue bar indicates successful applications, orange bar indicates unsuccessful applications.
- HIV: Only one orange bar indicates unsuccessful application.
Achievements

Publications by Scholars

- Bilal S.
- Senbeta G.
- Helen Y.
- Seid A.
- Tigist B.
- Mahlet Y.

Local
International
Achievements

Publications by Journal

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>International</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Cohort</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Cohort</td>
<td>2</td>
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Achievements

Publications by Scientific Area

- NCD
- MCH
- MH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>1st Cohort</th>
<th>2nd Cohort</th>
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<tr>
<td>NCD</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MH</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
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2nd Cohort vs 1st Cohort
Achievements

Presentations by Cohort

- 1st Cohort: 10 presentations
- 2nd Cohort: 9 presentations
- 3rd Cohort: 2 presentations
Other Achievements....
Leadership Training

- Conducted by Emory for 38 college faculty (including MEPI scholars)
MEPI Scholars’ Conference

• The First MEPI Scholars’ Conference held in June 2017

• 17 scholars presented their progress

• Mentorship Training

• Training on Team Sciences

• Only local mentors took part in the conference
MEPI Scholars’ Conference
D43 Networking Conference

• First MEPI-D43 Networking Conference-October 2017
• Involving Donor Representative and all MEPI D43 grantees
• Presentation by PIs on progress and challenges
• 27 scholars presented their work (4 from AAU)
D43 Networking Conference

1. Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
2. University of Nairobi, Kenya
3. Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique
4. University of Jos, Nigeria
5. University of Ibadan, Nigeria
6. University of Lagos, Nigeria
7. University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa
8. Kilimanjaro Christian University Medical College, Tanzania
9. University of Makerere, Uganda
10. University of Mbarara, Uganda
11. University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
D43 Networking Conference

- Objectives of the Networking Conference
  - To share experiences
  - To explore collaboration among Principal Investigators of D43 grantees and
  - To create a platform for faculty trainees to present their research work and network with fellow African junior faculty.
D43 Networking Conference

Presentation by Junior Faculty

Number of Presenters

- Makarere University: 8
- Addis Ababa University: 4
- Mbarara University: 3
- University of Lagos: 3
- KCMC: 2
- University of Nairobi: 2
- University of Zimbabwe: 2
- Universidade Eduardo Mondlane: 1
- UKZN: 1
- University of Jos: 1
D43 Networking Conference

Presentation by research area

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Area</th>
<th>Number of Presentations</th>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
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<td>Non-communicable disease</td>
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<td>MCH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>2</td>
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Number of presentations
D43 Networking Conference

Annual D43 Networking conference, October 16-18, 2017
Bishoftu, Ethiopia
CD: (Clayton Dedonder) Supplement Grant

• Applied and for supplement grant in December 2017
  • On Mentorship (HIV)
  • 15 mentees proposed (Five from Current MEPI Scholars)
    • 4 local mentors selected
    • 4 Emory based mentors

• Foundation course Mentorship conducted end of June

• Monthly CD Forum started
Challenges

• MSc. in Clinical Epi Curriculum

• Mentor Assignment

• Sandwich Courses

• Limited Research Support Budget
Future plan

• The Project office has applied for HEPI: MEPI-JF project Addis Ababa University has applied for the grant in collaboration with Wolita Sodo and Dila Universities from Ethiopia and two US partner Universities (Emory, and University of Alabama).

• Call for application for the fourth cohort will be announce in August 2018
Thank You!