CALL TO REGISTER INTEREST FOR CAPREx

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

**The CAPREx Fellowship Programme**

**CAPREx** (Cambridge-Africa Partnership for Research Excellence) is a three-way partnership between the [**University of Ghana, Legon**](http://orid.ug.edu.gh/subpage.php?page_header='The%20CAPREx%20Project'), [**Makerere University**, **Uganda**](http://rgt.mak.ac.ug/)and the [**University of Cambridge, UK**](http://www.cambridge-africa.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-in-africa-initiatives/caprex/)and funded by the **Carnegie Corporation of New York** and the **Isaac Newton Trust**. The CAPREx Fellowships have been created to strengthen academic research and research management capacity through the provision of Fellowships. Research Fellows are invited to embark on a collaborative research project with another researcher with mutual research interests. This research will usually be based in Cambridge, however in some cases more than one collaborator may be needed, and collaborators at another CAPREx partner university may also possible if relevant to the proposed project. A Fellowship visit, of up to six-months, at a partner University to write up research and conduct research activities will be provided, as well as funding to attend an international conference outside of Africa which is complimentary to the collaborative research project. CAPREx can also arrange for the Fellows’ collaborator(s) to visit the Fellows’ university for up to 3 days, to promote sustainable collaborative links and further work done on their shared project. It is hoped that while Fellows visit Cambridge, they will engage in a variety of training, seminars and networking opportunities to enhance their research links and skills.

**The CAPREx Fellowships**

The CAPREx Programme is pleased to invite applicants with research proposals in the following board fields to apply for **academic research fellowships** available in **2014/15**:

* [**Biological Sciences**](http://www.ug.edu.gh/index1.php?linkid=474) **and** [**Engineering**](http://fes.ug.edu.gh/) (**University of Ghana, Legon);**
* [**Social Sciences and Humanities**](http://chuss.mak.ac.ug/) **(Makerere University).**

The focus of CAPREx collaborative research projects should be on research collaboration relevant to Ghana and Uganda, which is where the majority of data collection, sampling, and other research work is expected to be carried out. CAPREx fellowships will, however, allow for an average of four months (ranging from 1 to 6 months) to be spent at the University of Cambridge, or other CAPREx partner University if necessary. Ideally, Fellowship visits should take place between June 2014 and June 2015. CAPREx will provide travel (to be arranged from Cambridge) and subsistence costs (£1,700 per month) for the agreed duration of Fellowship visits only (subsistence costs are not be provided for work done within the Fellows’ home country). Funds will also be allocated for each Fellow to attend an international conference, in Europe or North America. CAPREx fellows will also be eligible to submit an application, with their collaborator(s), to the **Cambridge-Africa** **Alborada Research Fund** (available at the University of Cambridge to be awarded to collaborative researchers, with awards ranging from £1,000 to £10,000 per application).

Details of previous CAPREx Fellows’ research projects and experiences during their Fellowship (blog, photos, visits to international conferences, etc), are available via the following link to the CAPREx website: [www.cambridge-africa.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-in-africa-initiatives/caprex/](http://www.cambridge-africa.cam.ac.uk/cambridge-in-africa-initiatives/caprex/)

**Eligibility to Apply**

There is a two-step application process. The first step to applying involves submitting a **registration of interest** form (deadline: 20th January 2014). The second step will apply to those shortlisted applicants to submit a **final application** form in consultation with their CAPREx collaborator(s), by the deadline of 28th April 2014. All those shortlisted will also be interviewed at their home university.

Applicants should be:

* PhD-holding members of staff of the CAPREx partner universities in Ghana and Uganda. Preference will be given to researchers who completed their PhDs less than 10 years ago (**early career fellows**), or 10 to 20 years ago (**mid-career fellows**).
* Full-time and part-time staff can be considered. They should be interested in focusing on a research career long-term.
* From the subject areas specified above for each African university.

Please note that female staff members are strongly encouraged to apply for Fellowships.

**Application Requirements**

Registrations of Interest should consist of:

* A completed preliminary application form, to be submitted the CAPREx Coordinator at the applicant’s university. If publications have been listed in the application, then links to these should be provided in the relevant section of the application form. Otherwise, pdf versions of the three most important publications should be submitted with the form if possible.
* A CV
* Supporting letters from two professional referees (including their telephone numbers, postal and e-mail addresses) to be sent directly from referees to the CAPREx Coordinator, above. At least one referee should be familiar with the applicant’s academic research work.

**Review of Applications and Selection of Fellows**

Applications will be reviewed by a selection panel comprising representatives from the three CAPREx partner universities, in the relevant subject areas (i.e. biological sciences, engineering, social sciences and humanities). Reviewers may pay particular attention to the following criteria: quality of references; research experience; commitment to pursuing an academic research career at the applicant’s home university; research project and potential for collaboration with CAPREx partners.

**Timeline**

* **20th January 2014:** Registration of Interest to be submitted to the CAPREx Coordinator at the applicant’s university (see home university website for contact details)
* **3rd March 2014:** Shortlisted applicants notified and invited to submit final application
* **31st March 2014:** Shortlisted applicants notified of collaborator(s) they have been matched to, and an introductory email will be sent to put collaborating parties in touch with each other. The candidates can then communicate directly and prepare a more detailed research proposal for the final application.
* **28th April 2014:** Final Application to be submitted online (details will, be provided).
* **7-9th May 2014:** CAPREx Fellowship interviews at the University of Ghana, Legon
* **13-15th May 2014:** CAPREx Fellowship interviews at Makerere University
* **30th May 2014:** Outcome of Fellowship applications confirmed and successful candidates will have to take up the Fellowship within one year of the award.