January 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

As we kick off 2021, we are gearing up to celebrate the second annual World NTD Day on January 30. This event could not come at a better time, as the COVID-19 pandemic threatens decades of progress in global health. World NTD Day coincides with the anniversary of the 2012 London Declaration on Neglected Tropical Diseases, which focused global attention and brought partners together to fight NTDs. Since 2012, 31 countries have eliminated at least one NTD. Progress is possible with coordinated efforts and support!

Join us to raise awareness of World NTD Day and engage more partners in the battle against NTDs. Below you will find communications materials to adapt and share through your social media channels and newsletters on January 30 and the days leading up to the event. Be sure to follow BVGH and our WIPO Re:Search Members and friends on social media throughout the month. We also invite you to join the World Health Organization (WHO) for the formal launch of “Ending the Neglect to Attain the Sustainable Development Goals: a Road Map for Neglected Tropical Diseases 2021-2030” on January 28. Click here to register.

Are you interested in launching new NTD research projects in the new year? Reach out to us to discuss accessing high-quality WIPO Re:Search Member resources—such as Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany’s Open Global Health Library and Johnson & Johnson’s Jump-stARter library—to kickstart your R&D programs.

We are pleased to welcome University of Antioquia to WIPO Re:Search as our 150th Member, and our first Member in Colombia. As WIPO Re:Search drives NTD, malaria, and tuberculosis R&D forward, it is critical that we engage researchers in all endemic countries. Colombia has established a culture and reputation of research excellence in infectious diseases, and we are confident the university will be a strong contributor and partner in the global WIPO Re:Search network.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
#WorldNTDDay is January 30. Proud to be a #WIPOReSearch Member partnering with innovative researchers worldwide, @BIOVentures, and @WIPO to #EndTheNeglect. #BeatNTDs #NTDs [https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/](https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/)

Did you know that neglected tropical diseases (#NTDs) affect over one billion people? On #WorldNTDDay, we stand with the innovative #WIPOReSearch scientists who are working to #EndTheNeglect with @BIOVentures and @WIPO. #BeatNTDs [https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/](https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/)

**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

- **151** Members
- **53** Active Agreements
- **11** Advancing Agreements
- **166** Agreements Established
- **45** Countries

Click [here](https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.  
Click [here](https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.  
Click [here](https://bvgh.org/wipo-research/) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.
New Member Announcement

University of Antioquia

University of Antioquia is a public university founded in 1803. Its main campus is located in the city of Medellín, Colombia, with other campuses and facilities in the nine regions of the Department of Antioquia. The purpose of the university is to pursue, develop, and spread knowledge in the fields of humanities, science, arts, philosophy, and technology through research, teaching, and outreach activities. The university consists of 25 academic units divided into 14 faculties, four schools, four institutes, and three corporations that together offer around 130 undergraduate programs. The university offers 58 specializations, 46 medical specialties, 57 master's programs, and 23 Ph.D. programs, for a total of 184 graduate programs. University of Antioquia was the first public university in Colombia to be granted the high-quality institutional accreditation for nine years by the Ministry of National Education. In 1986, the university established the Program for the Study and Control of Tropical Diseases (PECET). PECET is a constantly growing, multidisciplinary research group that brings together professionals from all fields and disciplines—including biological, natural, social, engineering, and health sciences—to develop solutions aimed at serving the country’s poorest communities suffering from tropical diseases. The group has extensive experience conducting science and technology projects at the national and international level in collaboration with partners from academia, private industry, and government. PECET is recognized by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a collaborating center for the teaching and training of researchers and for the evaluation of medicines and vaccines.

IP in Focus

WIPO Pearl Adds COVID-19 Terminology to Stimulate Innovation

The WIPO Pearl terminology database has added 1,500 new COVID-19-related terms in 10 languages, helping innovators targeting new coronavirus treatments and diagnostics with a baseline set of terms and their multilingual equivalents. This advancement will foster international collaboration and promote easier access to information in patent documents and other public resources produced around the world. Since the COVID-19 terms are of particular relevance currently, WIPO has made them available for free download.
Partnership Hub Central

WIPO Re:Search Fellow Featured at National Malaria Control Meeting

Following his 2019 WIPO Re:Search fellowship at PATH, Dr. Livingstone Tavul of the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Institute of Medical Research presented his work on glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) deficiency diagnostics at the PNG National Malaria Control Program Annual Meeting.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

Africa Young Innovators for Health Award 2021

The Africa Young Innovators for Health Award is launching its first competition designed to highlight and support the work of pioneering young entrepreneurs developing health innovations. The award, created to encourage business entrepreneurship and help advance promising health care solutions, is looking for solutions aimed at supporting, equipping, protecting, and training healthcare workers who are on the frontline of delivering healthcare to communities. The award brings together the need for innovative solutions with the power of the young entrepreneurial spirit in Africa. Winners will be awarded financial support, as well as a 3-month business mentorship program. Deadline: March 31, 2021. For more information, click here.

Additional Funding Opportunities


For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.
Member News

**WIPO Re:Search Investigator Contributes to the Fight Against COVID-19**

Dr. Horacio Bach at the University of British Columbia (UBC) is actively engaged in multiple WIPO Re:Search collaborations. In the face of the pandemic, he has transitioned to utilize his antibody engineering expertise to contribute to COVID-19 therapeutic development.

**Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events**

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**MSD is a trademark of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA.
February 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

Last month, BVGH and WIPO joined WIPO Re:Search Members and other partners around the globe to commemorate the second annual World NTD Day. Activities included social media campaigns, virtual events, and feature articles—including WIPO’s interview with Dr. Takayuki Hida, Senior Director for Sustainability at Eisai Co., Ltd., a founding Member of WIPO Re:Search. On January 30, more than 60 landmarks across 24 countries and 40 cities—including BVGH’s and WIPO’s hometowns of Seattle and Geneva, respectively—lit up to draw international attention to NTDs. As readers of this Snapshot know all too well, NTDs affect one in five people worldwide. We are grateful for the work that you do—on World NTD Day and every day—to end the neglect and beat NTDs.

The new WHO Road Map for NTDs 2021−2030, released during the lead-up to World NTD Day, establishes ambitious targets for NTD control, elimination, and eradication. In addition to expanding access to existing NTD vaccines, diagnostics, and drugs, it is also critical to expand R&D of new tools to address gaps in the current arsenal. Catalyzing such R&D through cross-sector, cross-institutional collaborations is—and always will be—at the core of WIPO Re:Search. We invite you to reach out to us to discuss your partnering interests for NTDs as well as malaria and tuberculosis.

We are pleased to welcome the newest Members of the WIPO Re:Search Consortium: Medical College of Wisconsin and the Public Health Institute (our first Member in Sudan).

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health

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Special Announcement

**European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health (ECTMIH) Call for Abstracts**

Researchers—including students—are invited to submit abstracts for oral presentations or poster presentations at the ECTMIH 2021 virtual conference. The abstract may be on any global challenge in health, migration, and equity—both research and practice. The abstract should correlate to at least one of the conference tracks, such as tuberculosis, malaria, or NTDs. Deadline for submission is March 15, 2021. Learn more about requirements [here](#).
New Member Announcements

Medical College of Wisconsin

As a major national research center and the second largest research institution in Wisconsin, Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) is dedicated to doing its part in transforming research to improve health in our communities. Founded in 1930, MCW is a distinguished leader and innovator in the education and development of the next generation of physicians, scientists, pharmacists, and health professionals. MCW discovers and translates new knowledge in the biomedical and health sciences; provides cutting-edge, collaborative patient care of the highest quality; and improves the health of the communities it serves.

Public Health Institute

The Public Health Institute (PHI), located in Khartoum, Sudan, is a multi-disciplinary institute that promotes creation of new knowledge and application of evidence-based interventions through delivering applied health research/professional training and teaching programs. PHI was established in 2009 by ministerial decree under the
Directorate of Human Resources for Health, Federal Ministry of Health, which supervises the running of the institute through a director appointed by the Undersecretary for Health. PHI acts as a “think tank” for the health sector by analyzing policies, searching for evidence, and advocating for health system reform. It has a workforce of both full-time and part-time staff, as well as external collaborators. PHI's mandate is research, training, and consultancy. PHI also contributes to the development of public health and health systems in Sudan.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

**Pfizer Shares IP with University of Yaoundé I to Develop Novel Drugs**

Leishmaniasis, malaria, and human African trypanosomiasis (HAT) are among the parasitic infectious diseases that disproportionately exact a heavy toll on people living in low- and middle-income countries. Prof. Fabrice Boyom, Head of the Antimicrobial & Biocontrol Agents Unit at University of Yaoundé I, is working toward the discovery and development of novel drugs for all three diseases by targeting the parasites’ critical metabolic pathways. To support Prof. Boyom’s drug discovery research, Pfizer Inc. has agreed to provide certain potassium channel blockers.

**MIT and University of Buea Continue Onchocerciasis Diagnostic Development Collaboration**

Prof. Stephen Ghogomu and Mr. Cabirou Shintouo at University of Buea and Dr. Jose Gomez-Marquez at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) are partnering through WIPO Re:Search to further diagnostic development for onchocerciasis. Dr. Gomez-Marquez has just shipped the resupply of Ampli blocks and consumables for gold nanoparticle development to support the next phases of their work. These collaborative efforts are key to developing a new dipstick test for assessment of elimination of human onchocerciasis – the second-leading cause of infection-related blindness worldwide.

The MIT team recently launched the Ampli Science Platform, an online learning portal for remote science using their plug-and-play biochemistry tools. Using interactive tutorials and a growing learning community, the platform connects diagnostic researchers from around the globe to share stories, experiences, and ideas on how to use the Ampli platform. This will continue to help teams to experiment with Ampli despite COVID-19 restrictions.

IP in Focus

**WIPO Offers New Patent Information Tool for Innovators**

WIPO INSPIRE (Index of Specialized Patent Information Reports), released in November 2020, serves as a one-stop shop for information on commercial patent databases. By bringing information on these databases together in
one place, innovators, service providers, patent offices, and other stakeholders in the innovation ecosystem can make more informed decisions regarding which databases to use. In a WIPO press release, Director General Daren Tang said WIPO INSPIRE is the fruit of an excellent public-private collaboration between WIPO, the owners of the databases, and patent information user groups.

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**BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards**

**RSTMH Opens 2021 Small Grants**

RSTMH’s small grants program offers early-career researchers and global health professionals based anywhere in the world the opportunity to apply for funding in a topic related to tropical medicine and global health. The program funds projects across the research spectrum, including lab-based, clinical, implementation, and policy-related research. RSTMH developed the program to support the next generation of global health researchers by providing seed funding to enable them to generate preliminary data to secure follow-on grants and further their careers. For 2021, priority will be given to applications in these areas: NTDs (focused on overlap with non-communicable diseases and the SDGs); malaria (drug resistance); One Health and wider planetary health; human health alongside animal health and the environment; emerging diseases; and drug-resistant infections. Deadline: April 15, 2021 (17:00 GMT). For more information, click [here](#).

**Additional Funding Opportunities**

- [Africa Young Innovators for Health Award 2021](#) – Deadline: March 31, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](#).

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**Member News**

**McGill University Features WIPO Re:Search Chagas Disease Collaboration**

McGill University featured the [WIPO Re:Search collaboration](#) between Dr. Horacio Bach at [University of British Columbia (UBC)](#) and Dr. Momar Ndao at [McGill University](#) (originally from Senegal) in the January 20, 2021 issue of [McGill Perspectives on Global Health](#). The two investigators are partnering to develop new diagnostics for Chagas disease, a significant public health problem in Latin America.
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March 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

As I write this, WIPO Re:Search has just concluded a first-of-its-kind virtual intellectual property (IP) capacity building workshop for scientists and IP management professionals in Africa, the Asia-Pacific region, and Latin America. In alignment with the Consortium’s strategic objectives, the four-day IP capacity building workshop provided critical training to empower low- and middle-income countries to strategically manage their IP assets. WIPO’s own IP experts and experienced trainers were joined by international IP experts representing WIPO Re:Search’s cross-sector membership of private sector, academic, and government research organizations. Pfizer’s prior Chief IP Counsel and subject matter experts from Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany; National Institutes of Health; and Association of University Technology Managers shared their experiences and knowledge with WIPO Re:Search Fellows and other program participants. Please stay tuned for details on how to access the workshop recordings and trainers’ presentations.

We were honored to have WIPO Director General Daren Tang speak to the importance of WIPO Re:Search and IP in the fight against neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), not only during the opening session of the IP workshop, but also in a statement issued for World NTD Day. Although much work remains to be done to eradicate NTDs, as well as malaria and tuberculosis, we are encouraged by recent news, including the 50% drop in human dracunculiasis (Guinea worm disease) cases in 2020, certification of El Salvador as malaria-free, and evidence that an old antibiotic may combat drug-resistant tuberculosis.

We are pleased to welcome the newest Members of the WIPO Re:Search Consortium: University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) and Global Health Innovation Alliance Accelerator (GHIAA).

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health

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**Special Announcements**

**Therapeutic Advances in Infectious Disease Calls for Papers on NTDs**

*Therapeutic Advances in Infectious Disease* invites manuscripts relating to all aspects of the epidemiology, diagnosis, and management of NTDs for its Special Collection titled “*Neglected Tropical Diseases: Recent Progress and Future Challenges*” (Guest Editor: Diego Alvarez, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine). Following
initial triage, suitable manuscripts submitted to this Special Collection will be peer reviewed before publication. Learn more here.

**BEI Resources Adds Four New Species of *Leishmania***

A recent deposit of *Leishmania* strains by Dr. K. P. Chang of Rosalind Franklin University has expanded the BEI Resources *Leishmania* collection by four new species: *L. braziliensis*, *L. gerbilli*, *L. infantum*, and *L. turanica*. Strains have been sequenced for the *nagt* gene, allowing for inter- and/or intra-species discrimination. Learn more here.

**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members. Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations. Click here to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

**New Member Announcements**

**University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)**

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) is one of four campuses of the University of Nebraska. Founded in 1869, UNMC became part of the University of Nebraska in 1902. Major units include the College of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, College of Dentistry, College of Public Health, College of Allied Health Professions, Eppley Institute for Research in Cancer and Allied Diseases, Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center, Munroe-Meyer Institute, Stanley M. Truhlsen Eye Institute, and a graduate studies program. With collaboration from a highly engaged community of skilled professionals and access to world-class facilities, UNMC researchers identify and focus on critical questions that lead to new knowledge and, in the long term, life-changing therapies.
Global Healthcare Innovation Alliance Accelerator (GHIAA)

The Global Health Innovation Alliance Accelerator (GHIAA), established in 2017, is an independent resource, curator, interdisciplinary think tank, and consultancy. The organization is dedicated to improving the health of the world’s communities through accelerated and improved alliance formation. GHIAA aims to facilitate translation of global health policies into actionable agreement provisions that will address global health challenges by advancing research, development, and marketing for new biomedical technologies. To achieve this objective, GHIAA develops and promotes the use of tools and best practices for global health alliance formation.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

UC San Diego Shares IP with University of Zambia for Schistosomiasis Drug Discovery

Praziquantel (PZQ) has been the drug of choice for the treatment of schistosomiasis for over 40 years. Although it is effective against all major forms of schistosomiasis, it is less active against juvenile parasites. New antischistosomals targeting different parasite development stages would not only lead to improved efficacy and expand treatment options, but also reduce the risk of drug resistance. To address this treatment gap, Dr. Conor Caffrey, Professor at UC San Diego’s Center for Discovery and Innovation in Parasitic Diseases (CDIPD) and the Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences, will investigate natural product derivatives synthesized by Dr. Peter Cheuka, Lecturer and Researcher in Medicinal Chemistry and Drug Discovery at University of Zambia. The compounds will be tested against various developmental stages of *S. mansoni* at CDIPD to determine bioactivity and identify interesting scaffolds for further development.
IP in Focus

**WIPO Sequence Supports Patent Applicants Filing Sequence Listing**

WIPO Sequence, launched in November 2020 is a free tool that supports the production and cross-border filing of patent applications generated in the biotechnology sector. The desktop application (available for Windows, Mac OSX, and Linux) allows patent applicants to author their sequence listings – including DNA, RNA, and amino acids – in a format compliant with the new WIPO Standard ST.26 adopted by Member States. Under current practices, IP Offices have had to produce their own tools for applicants to author their sequence listings, which has resulted in sequence listings in different formats depending on where they originate from. WIPO Sequence represents an advancement because all Offices have agreed to adopt its use so that applicants across the world will have access to the same free tool.

**BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards**

**NIH/NIAID Innovation for Tuberculosis Vaccine Discovery (ITVD)**

This initiative will support the design of novel tuberculosis vaccine candidates that exploit innovative approaches and their advancement into preclinical animal model testing. This funding opportunity will use a milestone-driven, biphasic award mechanism to fund high-risk/exploratory research. Transition to the second phase depends on the successful completion of milestones. Letters of Intent are due 30 days prior to the application due date of June 30, 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

**Additional Funding Opportunities**

- [MMV: 19th Call for Proposals](#) – Deadline: March 26, 2021.
- [For Women in Science: Sub-Saharan Africa Call for Applications 2021](#) – Deadline: March 29, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](mailto:).

**Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events**

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April 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

I am pleased to announce the publication of “IP to Beat TB: How Efforts to Curb Tuberculosis Are Being Fueled by a Collaborative IP Ecosystem” in IPWatchdog, in collaboration with the United States Chamber of Commerce. Timed to coincide with World TB Day, the article showcases the critical role that WIPO Re:Search, and public-private R&D partnerships and IP sharing more broadly, are playing in the global fight against TB.

As World Malaria Day approaches later this month, we are heartened by the major strides the countries of the Greater Mekong subregion have made toward malaria elimination in the face of the dual threats of COVID-19 and antimalarial drug resistance. We also celebrate all of our WIPO Re:Search Members who are battling malaria—and antimalarial resistance—in a variety of ways, including leveraging of pharmaceutical industry assets to develop new drugs with novel modes of action.

Every April 26, WIPO celebrates World IP Day to highlight the critical role that IP rights play in encouraging innovation and creativity. This year, WIPO welcomes the global innovation community to organize or participate in virtual activities and use the hashtag #WorldIPDay on social media.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health

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**Special Announcements**

**ASTMH Travel Award Applications Due April 21**

The American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) offers Travel Awards to qualified students, early-career investigators, and scientists in the tropical medicine field to attend the Society’s Annual Meeting (November 17-21 in Maryland, USA). Awardees participate in the meeting through oral or poster presentations. Learn more [here](#).

**Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Research Challenge Applications Due April 30**

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is organizing a series of research competitions for technology pioneers worldwide in areas of high innovation. Winning these renowned prizes shows the superiority of the winning team and also opens new avenues for partnering with the company. Learn more [here](#).
Cornerstones of Collaboration

**SCRI, NIH, UBC Researchers Identify Natural Products with Antitubercular Activity**

With a total of 1.4 million people worldwide who succumbed to tuberculosis (TB) in 2019, TB remains the world’s deadliest infectious disease. There was also a 10% increase in multidrug-resistant TB (MDR-TB) between 2018 and 2019. MDR-TB is not susceptible to the normal six-month drug course of isoniazid, rifampin, pyrazinamide, and ethambutol, and for this reason it is critical that novel antitubercular agents are identified. Marine sponges have consistently been the richest source of novel marine natural products and have historically shown in vitro cytotoxicity and antimicrobial activity. Using crude extracts of the marine sponge *Chelonaplysilla sp.* obtained from the National Cancer Institute (NCI) Open Repository at the [National Institutes of Health (NIH)](https://www.nih.gov), Prof. Tanya Parish from [Seattle Children’s Research Institute (SCRI)](https://www.seattlechildrens.org), along with Prof. Raymond Andersen from [University of British Columbia (UBC)](https://www.ubc.ca) and Dr. Barry O’Keefe from NCI, collaborated to screen and characterize the extracts for antitubercular activity. This WIPO Re:Search collaboration resulted in the identification of compounds that exhibited potent antimicrobial activity against *M. tuberculosis*, and a [publication](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/33724382) in *The Journal of Antibiotics* titled “Diterpenoids isolated from the Samoan marine sponge Chelonaplysilla sp. inhibit Mycobacterium tuberculosis growth”.

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**IP in Focus**

**WIPO’s Global Design Database**

[WIPO’s Global Design Database](https://www.wipo.int/design/en/) is a free, multilingual, global search engine for a worldwide collection of industrial designs data, including WIPO Hague registrations and information from participating offices. You can find an overview from a January 2021 webinar, as well as other webinars on the database [here](https://www.wipo.int/design/en/).
BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

RSTMH Small Grants Program – Deadline Extended to April 29

RSTMH’s small grants program offers early-career researchers and global health professionals based anywhere in the world the opportunity to apply for funding in a topic related to tropical medicine and global health. The program funds projects across the research spectrum, including lab-based, clinical, implementation, and policy-related research. RSTMH developed the program to support the next generation of global health researchers by providing seed funding to enable them to generate preliminary data to secure follow-on grants and further their careers. For 2021, priority will be given to applications in these areas: NTDs (focused on overlap with non-communicable diseases and the SDGs); malaria (drug resistance); One Health and wider planetary health; human health alongside animal health and the environment; emerging diseases; and drug-resistant infections. Deadline: April 29, 2021 (17:00 BST). For more information, click here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- NIH/NIAID Tropical Medicine Research Centers (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) for NTDs in endemic areas – Letter of Intent Deadline: May 19, 2021; Application Deadline: June 18, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Member News

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine Publishes Snakebite Article

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) recently published an article on snakebite treatment in Trends in Pharmacological Sciences. In their opinion piece, Prof. Nick Casewell and Prof. Rachel Clare and their team at the Center for Snakebite Research & Interventions discuss the promise of small molecule drugs as new snakebite treatments.

Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events

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May 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

We are excited to announce the release of our 2020 WIPO Re:Search Partnership Hub Annual Report. In this report we feature the Consortium’s accomplishments during a year unlike any other—from new international collaborations and significant advances in ongoing collaborations, to expansion of our global Member network and high-profile awards for our Fellowship Program alumni.

World IP Day, celebrated every year on April 26, highlights the critical role that IP plays in encouraging innovation in areas including global health. We are proud of our WIPO Re:Search company Members for deploying their valuable IP assets—on World IP Day and every day—through global partnerships to fight neglected diseases. The work of many of our companies was recently spotlighted in international media, including:

- **Eisai:** An [animation](#) showcasing the company's lymphatic filariasis elimination activities—encompassing medicines delivery to endemic countries and disease awareness programs—won an award at the International Society for Neglected Tropical Diseases (ISNTD) Festival 2021.
- **Novartis:** The company is partnering with [Medicines for Malaria Venture](#) to develop two new antimalarial drugs that are in late-stage clinical trials, and is also investigating the repurposing of one of its heart failure drugs for chronic Chagas cardiomyopathy. Additionally, Novartis has [renewed](#) an agreement with the World Health Organization to provide access to its leprosy and fascioliasis medicines through the end of 2025.
- **Pfizer:** The elimination of trachoma as a public health problem in The Gambia was made possible through strong partnerships, including broad access to the company’s antibiotic azithromycin.
- **Takeda:** In a new [interview](#) with WIPO, Dr. Chris Reddick, Head of Takeda’s R&D Center for Health Equity, highlighted the myriad ways that the company is driving neglected disease R&D innovation through IP-sharing collaborations—including compounds for [tuberculosis drug discovery](#), microneedle patch technology for [malaria vaccine development](#), and knowledge exchange and capacity building.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health

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### Special Announcements

**Input Requested: WIPO Re:Search Performance, 2022-2026 Strategy**

As WIPO Re:Search enters its second decade, the consulting firm everis (NTT Data) is conducting an independent review of the Consortium’s performance (per the [2017-2021 Strategic Plan](#)) and coordinating the development of the 2022-2026...
Strategic Plan. Input from WIPO Re:Search stakeholders—across sectors and geographic regions—is critical for this process. If you have not been contacted by everis to provide your insights and opinions, please click here to access the online survey. Responses are requested no later than May 21, 2021. Please contact Júlia Turon i Lorén at wipo.ReSearch.review@nttdata.com with any questions.

**RSTMH Calls for Abstracts for Annual Meeting Due June 7**

The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine & Hygiene (RSTMH) is accepting abstracts focused on drug-resistant infections. Poster presentations and five-minute “turbo talks” will be selected from abstracts submitted by early-career researchers. Learn more here.

**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

[Image showing statistics: 55 Active Agreements, 154 Members, 45 Countries, 169 Agreements Established, 10 Advancing Agreements]

Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members. Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations. Click here to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

**SSGCID and IP Montevideo Collaborate to Discover New Treatments for Chagas Disease, HAT, and Leishmaniasis**

Chagas disease, human African trypanosomiasis (HAT), and leishmaniasis are among the infectious diseases that disproportionately exact a heavy toll on people living in low- and middle-income countries. Dr. Marcelo Comini, Head of the Redox Biology of Trypanosomes Laboratory at the Institut Pasteur de Montevideo (IP Montevideo), works on the discovery of novel drugs targeting the pathogens responsible for these diseases The Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID), which is contracted through the United States National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (contract HHSN272201700059C), will investigate the crystal structure of three proteins identified by Dr. Comini to inform rational design of new treatments for Chagas disease, HAT, and leishmaniasis.

**IP in Focus**

**Non-Patent Literature Now Available in PATENTSCOPE**

WIPO’s PATENTSCOPE now includes non-patent literature, specifically open access content from some of the world’s leading multidisciplinary science journals on Nature.com. Over 54,000 documents are now searchable in PATENTSCOPE. Access and search PATENTSCOPE here.
BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

Global Institute for Disease Elimination (GLIDE): Falcon Awards

The Falcon Awards for Disease Elimination were created to help advance the elimination of malaria, polio, lymphatic filariasis, and onchocerciasis. Up to five grants of up to $200,000 each will be awarded to organizations based in endemic countries. Proposals should demonstrate a high potential to expand and amplify effective solutions in disease elimination and create lasting impacts. GLIDE recommends that projects align with national priorities to advance disease elimination strategies, along with international objectives of WHO’s NTD road map. Deadline for abstract submissions is June 13, 2021. For more information, click here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- NIH/NIAID Tropical Medicine Research Centers (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) for NTDs in endemic areas – Letter of Intent Deadline: May 19, 2021; Application Deadline: June 18, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events

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<td>June 10, 2021</td>
<td>Neglected Tropical Disease Network for NGOs (NNN) Rising to the Challenge: Learning and Adapting NTD Programming in a Changing Landscape</td>
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**MSD is a trademark of Merck & Co., Inc., Kenilworth, NJ, USA.
June 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

In this issue we are pleased to feature a new WIPO Re:Search collaboration between University of Tokyo and Pfizer. Dr. Tomoyoshi Nozaki, an experienced parasitic diseases researcher at the University’s Graduate School of Medicine, will screen compounds from Pfizer to assess their repurposing potential against malaria. The Government of Japan recently reinforced its commitment to the World Health Organization (WHO) and global health as one of WHO’s top contributors across their shared priorities. Eisai and Takeda have represented Japan as active participants in WIPO Re:Search for many years. Eisai is currently partnering on an onchocerciasis drug discovery and capacity building program with Prof. Fidelis Cho-Ngwa at University of Buea in Cameroon, as described in the 2020 BVGH Partnership Hub Annual Report. Takeda’s tuberculosis drug R&D project with Prof. Yossi Av-Gay at University of British Columbia was featured in WIPO Re:Search: Advancing Product Development for Neglected Infectious Diseases through Global Public-Private Partnerships.

Takeda’s longstanding commitment to improving global health goes beyond WIPO Re:Search. The company’s recently announced long-term safety and efficacy data demonstrate the potential of its dengue vaccine candidate (TAK-003) to significantly impact health.

Last month, the World Health Assembly adopted a new resolution that aims to revitalize and accelerate efforts to end malaria. This resolution is particularly crucial as global progress against malaria stalls in the face of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The World Health Assembly also adopted a decision recognizing January 30 as World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day. BVGH, WIPO, WIPO Re:Search Members, and other partners around the globe were proud to commemorate World NTD Day earlier this year, and we look forward to contributing to future campaigns to help end the neglect and beat NTDs.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Cornerstones of Collaboration

Pfizer Shares Compounds for University of Tokyo Antimalarial Drug R&D Program

In 2019, malaria caused an estimated 229 million clinical episodes and 409,000 deaths. As development of resistance to existing drugs is one of the greatest threats to malaria control, it is critical that new potential therapeutics be developed. Dr. Tomoyoshi Nozaki, Professor at the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Tokyo, is working toward the discovery and development of novel potential treatments for malaria. To support Dr. Nozaki’s drug discovery research, Pfizer Inc. has agreed to provide certain compounds that may inhibit selected targets.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

RSTMH Chalmers Medal and Sir Rickard Christophers Medal

The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine (RSTMH) is accepting nominations for two prestigious medals awarded for outstanding work in tropical medicine. The Chalmers Medal recognizes mid-career researchers in tropical medicine or global health who demonstrate evidence of mentoring and professional development of junior investigators, and other forms of capacity building. For more information on the Chalmers Medal, click here. The Sir Rickard Christophers Medal recognizes senior experts for their outstanding work in tropical medicine and hygiene, and evidence of practical and field applications. For more information on the Sir Rickard Christophers Medal, click here. For both medals, nominators and nominees should be RSTMH members or Fellows. Deadline for nominations for both medals is July 19, 2021.
Additional Funding Opportunities

- **GHIT Fund Call for Proposals: Product Development Platform** – Intent to Apply (ITA) Form Deadline: July 8, 2021.
- **GHIT Fund Call for Proposals: Target Research Platform** – Intent to Apply (ITA) Form Deadline: July 8, 2021.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Highlighted Contributions

**PATH Vaccine Technologies**

PATH has developed two technologies to improve vaccine efficacy and delivery methods, for which they are willing to discuss possible collaboration with WIPO Re:Search investigators on a case-by-case basis:

1. **Fast-Dissolving Tablets (FDTs)** to address the current challenges of vaccine storage, transport, and delivery. These freeze-dried, lyophilized tablets are a dosage formulation designed for sub-lingual administration. This is a broadly applicable technology that can be used for vaccine, biologic, and small molecule candidates.

2. **Double-mutant labile toxin (dmLT) adjuvant** stimulates the mucosal immune response. As such, it may be a useful adjuvant for vaccines targeting respiratory or enteric pathogens, such as SARS-CoV-2, *Shigella*, and ETEC. This technology has been featured in the following recent publications: 1, 2, 3.

If you are interested in learning more, please contact Callie Weber.

Upcoming Virtual Global Health Events

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July 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

In June we commemorated the Day of the African Child and the International Day of the Tropics, which collectively provided important reminders of the challenges, opportunities, and promise in the fight against neglected tropical diseases, malaria, and tuberculosis. We could not be more proud of our WIPO Re:Search investigators and fellows based in tropical countries who are combatting these diseases through a variety of innovative approaches—including unleashing the medicinal power of the tropics’ natural biodiversity.

The cornerstone of WIPO Re:Search is, and always has been, sharing intellectual property assets and know-how across sectors and geographies to catalyze innovation, build research capacity, and ultimately improve health. In that spirit, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), World Health Organization, and World Trade Organization will build capacity and provide technical assistance to countries relating to their COVID-19 needs. Read their joint statement here.

WIPO, AUTM, Licensing Executives Society International, and the International Chamber of Commerce will host a virtual seminar titled “Harnessing Public Research for Innovation in the Time of COVID-19 and Beyond–The Role of Knowledge Transfer Policies,” on July 20th. Since its inception in 2011, WIPO Re:Search has stimulated cross-sector knowledge transfer through R&D collaborations (nearly 170 to date) and our Fellowship Program (supported by the Government of Australia through WIPO Funds-in-Trust). To learn more and register for this seminar—which features WIPO Director General Daren Tang, as well as speakers from Novartis and WIPO Member States active in WIPO Re:Search (including Brazil and China)—click here and enter code 33WSMBV521.

We are pleased to welcome Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia—the first WIPO Re:Search Member in Peru—to the Consortium.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Special Announcements

RSTMH Announces *International Health* Call for Papers

*International Health* “aims to stimulate scientific and policy debate and provide a forum for analysis and opinion sharing for individuals and organizations engaged in all areas of global health.” Request for papers is ongoing. Learn more [here](#).

NTD Network Offering Travel and Research Bursaries

NTD Network is offering two bursaries for early-career researchers, preferably Ph.D.s or postdoctoral research associates, working on leishmaniasis or Chagas disease. Application deadline: November 30, 2021. Learn more [here](#).

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) Offering Online Courses

LSHTM offers a broad curriculum of online courses. Two additions of note are *Eliminating Trachoma* and *The Global Challenge of Vector Borne Diseases and How to Control Them* (offered in partnership with ARCTEC, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and IVCC). Many courses are self-paced.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

**Novartis Facilitates Mycobacterium Abscessus Drug Discovery**

To support the search for new, effective drugs against *Mycobacterium abscessus*, the [Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research (NIBR)](https://www.nibr.com/) shared a targeted collection of compounds through WIPO Re:Search with Prof. Thomas Dick, Member of the Center for Discovery and Innovation, Hackensack Meridian Health, and Professor at the Hackensack Meridian School of Medicine, to screen for activity against the bacterium. Novartis also recently shared structures and
resupplied quantities of a subset of effective compounds for Prof. Dick to conduct further validation and dose-response studies at his institution.

New Member Announcement

**Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia**

Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia (UPCH) is a leading higher education institution in Lima, Peru. For 60 years, UPCH has contributed to world-class knowledge in tropical medicine, high-altitude medicine and physiology, public health, and basic sciences with the highest research standards and ethics. Research and innovation are fundamental pillars, and the university consistently ranks among the top Peruvian institutions in research and international partnerships. UPCH's Instituto de Medicina Tropical Alexander von Humboldt studies diseases including tuberculosis, leishmaniasis, malaria, and HIV, in Lima as well as at field sites such as Iquitos, Cuzco, and La Merced.

IP in Focus

**Trilateral Distance Learning Course Dates Announced**

The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO) have prepared an *Executive Course on Promoting Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation (DL-701)*, which is administered by the WIPO Academy. The purpose of this course is to give an overview of the factors that shape access to, and influence innovation of medical technologies. The course describes how these two policy objectives are shaped by a diverse range of factors that span the policy fields of public health, IP, and international trade. The course is offered in a tutored version with experienced tutors who provide academic support. In addition, the WIPO Academy offers a self-paced, non-tutored version of this course. The target audience for this course primarily includes technical professionals such as patent examiners, health policymakers and their assistants, drug procurement specialists, IP specialists and senior students.

This course requires approximately 10 hours of study time over a period of 3-4 weeks and is offered in a range of languages. Registration times differ for each class with the first registration period opening August 31, 2021. Registration will be announced on the WIPO Academy web page [here](#).

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

**Cures Within Reach**

The ReGRoW program of Cures Within Reach (CWR) provides repurposing research grants to investigators in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Year two of ReGRoW is officially underway, with a new funding opportunity Request for Proposals (RFP). At least three grants of up to USD $50,000 each will be awarded. Projects can focus on any unsolved disease facing patients in LMICs and must repurpose an existing off-patent drug, nutraceutical, or indigenous medicine that already has appropriate regulatory approvals or is otherwise safe and readily available for human use. Eligible institutions must be "research ready." Application Deadline: August 6, 2021.

CWR is also accepting submissions to their CureAccelerator platform through August 6, 2021. Open RFPs include: 1) *Repurposing Research Led by a US-Based Racial/Ethnic Minority PI*, and 2) *Repurposing Research to Address Racial / Ethnic Health Disparities in the Greater Chicago Area*. 
Additional Funding Opportunities

- **Wellcome International Master’s Fellowships** – Application Deadline: August 24, 2021.
- **AfOx Travel and Starter Grants** for collaborations between researchers at African institutions and the University of Oxford – Applications are open year-round.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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August 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

This month we observe World Mosquito Day, an opportunity to commemorate the international community’s progress in the fight against mosquito-borne diseases and reaffirm commitments to eliminate them once and for all. We are proud of our WIPO Re:Search Members who are battling malaria—one of the most common mosquito-borne diseases—on multiple fronts, including molecular surveillance of antimalarial resistance and development of new drugs with novel mechanisms of action to outpace such resistance.

August also brings International Youth Day, a time to celebrate the potential of young people as partners in global society, both today and in the future. We are inspired by WIPO Director General Daren Tang’s focus on engaging and empowering youth to utilize the IP system to transform their innovation and creativity into solutions for global challenges as well as economic development in their countries.

WIPO Re:Search Member Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany has expanded its commitment to eliminate schistosomiasis through a contract manufacturing agreement in Kenya for a new pediatric medication. To learn more about the initiative click here.

We are pleased to welcome the Institute of Science and Technology (INSTech) to the Consortium.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Special Announcements

Africa Research Excellence Fund (AREF) Grant Writing Workshop

AREF is offering a grant writing workshop for scientists from underserved countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. The workshop takes place in October and November 2021. Application Deadline: August 20, 2021. Learn more here.

NIAID Eligibility Extended for Some Postdoctoral Researchers

Postdocs eligible for NIAID Career Transition Awards (K22) and NIH or NIAID Pathway to Independence Awards (K99/R00) may have a temporary extension of that eligibility due to COVID-19. Learn more here.

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click here for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click here to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Johnson & Johnson Supports Anthelmintic Drug Discovery Effort by University of Melbourne

Johnson & Johnson provided its Jump-stARter library to the anthelmintic drug discovery effort led by Dr. Aya Taki and colleagues in the Gasser Laboratory at University of Melbourne. The developed high-throughput whole organism assay and screening results contributed to a publication in Pharmaceuticals, “High-Throughput Phenotypic Assay to Screen for Anthelmintic Activity on Haemonchus contortus.” The results demonstrate the benefits and promise of the high-throughput
assay format to be applied to other socioeconomically important parasitic nematodes to more effectively identify small molecules with high repurposing or development potential. Multiple small molecules were identified as hits; the team plans to conduct critical assessment of the potential of the selected hits as candidates for subsequent optimization.

New Member Announcement

Institute of Science and Technology (INSTech)

The Institute of Science and Technology (INSTech) is a private scientific, cultural, and technical institution in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. Established in December 2015, INSTech aims to (1) train technicians and engineers capable of participating in the economic development of Burkina Faso and elsewhere, and (2) contribute to scientific and technological research and the promotion of research results. INSTech collaborates nationally, regionally, and internationally. Collaborators include Burkina Faso’s National Malaria Control Program (PNLP), the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP), London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Medicines for Malaria Venture, and University of California, San Francisco. Infectious disease research facilities include parasitology, mosquito infectivity, bacteriology, hematology/serology, and chemistry and natural substances laboratories.

IP in Focus

Registration Open for Executive Course on Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation

The Executive Distance Learning Course on Access to Medical Technologies and Innovation (DL-701)—co-developed by WIPO, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO)—is open for registration until September 14, 2021. The course, which is part of the technical assistance and capacity building offered under WIPO’s COVID-19 Recovery Package, combines the expertise of all three organizations and is aimed at technical professionals, such as IP specialists, health policymakers, drug procurement specialists, and senior students.

DL-701—offered at no charge as a self-study course—will run from September 15, 2021, to October 17, 2021, and is offered in several languages.


The study—co-authored by WIPO, WHO, and WTO—examines the intersection between health, intellectual property, and trade and how they affect medical innovation and access to medical technologies. The second edition is an update of the original 2013 study and reviews key developments.
BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

World Bank Group Africa Fellowship Program

The Africa regions of the World Bank Group (WBG) announce the opening of the application for the 2022 WBG-Africa Fellowship Program for Ph.D. candidates and recent Ph.D. graduates (within three years of Ph.D. completion) who are Sub-Saharan Africa nationals. Fellows will spend six months getting hands-on experience at World Bank Group headquarters in Washington D.C. or country offices. They will work on research, economic policy, technical assistance, and lending operations that contribute to the World Bank Group’s goal of eliminating poverty and increasing shared prosperity. Women are encouraged to apply. Application Deadline: August 23, 2021.

Africa Research Excellence Fund (AREF) Research Development Fellowships

AREF’s Research Development Fellowships support emerging Sub-Saharan African scientists. Fellowships include three- to nine-month placements at leading research institutions in Europe or Africa, with additional support at home institutions before and after the placement, up to a maximum of £40,000. Application Deadline: September 23, 2021.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [AfOx Travel and Starter Grants](#) for collaborations between researchers at African institutions and the University of Oxford – Applications are open year-round.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](#).

Member News

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and Partners Identify Novel Antischistosomal Compounds

Schistosomiasis affects hundreds of millions of people worldwide, mostly in the world’s poorest countries. Using a novel method for culturing juvenile *Schistosoma mansoni* worms, scientists at [Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany](#), in collaboration with researchers at Technische Universität München (Germany), Theodor Bilharz Research Institute (Egypt), and National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (National Institutes of Health, USA), have screened molecules against schistosomiasis under 3R principles and identified compounds with promising antischistosomal activity. This research was recently [published](#) in the peer-reviewed journal *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*.

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September 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

We are excited to announce that, to commemorate WIPO Re:Search’s 10th anniversary, BVGH and WIPO will be hosting a half-day virtual event on Thursday, October 28 showcasing how IP and innovation are driving improved health and economic development in Africa. Stay tuned for further details and registration information.

I invite you to read a recent post from USAID highlighting the important role of women—including female scientists in endemic countries—in the fight to beat NTDs. We celebrate the many female WIPO Re:Search investigators and fellows who are collaborating worldwide to improve the diagnosis and treatment of neglected diseases; expand cutting-edge R&D programs in low- and middle-income countries; and train the next generation of researchers.

This month we observe International Snakebite Awareness Day, an important opportunity to raise the visibility of one of the world’s biggest hidden health crises. The only effective treatments for snakebite envenoming are antivenoms. However, antivenoms are expensive to manufacture, and different antivenoms are required to treat the bites of different snake species. We are proud of our WIPO Re:Search Members who are seeking to revolutionize snakebite envenoming treatment by developing less costly, small-molecule therapies that inhibit toxins in venom.

We are pleased to welcome University of Rwanda as our first WIPO Re:Search Member in the country.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Special Announcements

**Save the Date: WIPO Re:Search 10th Anniversary Africa Regional Event!**

WIPO Re:Search is celebrating its 10th anniversary! On **October 28, 2021**, we will host a half-day virtual event showcasing how IP and innovation are driving improved health and economic development in Africa. Hear from African scientists participating in WIPO Re:Search collaborations, other regional partners, and WIPO Re:Search company Members investing across the continent. Details and registration information coming soon.

**Webinar: Strengthening Capacity for Health Innovation in Africa – Launch of the H3D Foundation and IFPMA Partnership**

Join **IFPMA** on September 28 for a 90-minute session on Strengthening Capacity for Health Innovation in Africa and learn about IFPMA’s new partnership with **H3D Foundation**. View the agenda and register [here](#).

**Seeding Labs’ Instrumental Access Program**

Seeding Labs’ mission is to empower every scientist to transform the world. The next application deadline for the [Instrumental Access](#) program is October 15, 2021.

**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

- **53** Active Agreements
- **158** Members
- **46** Countries
- **169** Agreements Established
- **9** Advancing Agreements

Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

**Cornerstones of Collaboration**

**Profiling Antimalarial Drug Resistance Markers in Nigeria**

Dr. Jun-Hu Chen at the **National Institute of Parasitic Diseases (NIPD)** in China uses PCR assays and sequencing to identify resistance-causing mutations in malaria parasite genes. Through WIPO Re:Search, and with funding from NIPD, Dr. Uche Igbasi, then a graduate student in the laboratory of Prof. Wellington Oyibo at **University of Lagos** in Nigeria, spent two months at NIPD to receive training in molecular genotyping and to apply this technique to identify resistance marker genes to sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine (SP) in isolates of *Plasmodium falciparum* from Nigerian patients. WHO recommends SP for prophylactic use in pregnant women in the second trimester, to prevent adverse effects of malaria on the fetus and mother. However, SP is currently widely used in the general population as drug combination therapy. The
collaborators recently published their results in a paper titled "High multiple mutations of Plasmodium falciparum-resistant genotypes to sulphadoxine-pyrimethamine in Lagos, Nigeria." This work reported a high prevalence of SP-resistant haplotypes (for example, triple mutations in dhfr [93.8%]; single haplotype mutations in dhps [44.3%]; quadruple dhfr-dhps haplotype mutations [42.6%]; octuple haplotype mutations [22.0%]; and some rare mutations), five to eight years after the Federal Ministry of Health disapproved the drug for monotherapy use in the general population in Nigeria. These findings highlight the need for regular surveillance on the utility of the recommended use of SP as a single-drug prophylactic in pregnancy. This is the second joint publication resulting from Dr. Chen’s and Prof. Oyibo’s WIPO Re:Search collaboration. Read their previous paper here.

New Member Announcement

University of Rwanda

Established in 2013, University of Rwanda is committed to graduating the next generation of leaders who are prepared and dedicated to building a more just and sustainable society locally, nationally, and globally. The university is a multi-campus institution, consisting of six academic entities, including the College of Science and Technology and the College of Medicine and Health Sciences. University of Rwanda is recognized for its innovative approaches to teaching, learning, research, and connections with the community, and aims to become a world-class university empowering national economic and social transformation through active participation in the global knowledge economy. The university has extensive experience conducting infectious disease research and experimental medicine to develop improved interventions and strengthen access and community acceptance.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) Iso Lomso Fellowship

The Iso Lomso Fellowship provides a three-year attachment to STIAS to enable early-career African researchers to develop and conduct a long-term research program of their preference. The fellowship is aimed at scholars who have obtained a doctoral degree within the preceding seven years and who hold an academic position at a university or research institution anywhere in Africa. Candidates should have established a research program and have completed a post-doctoral fellowship or equivalent post-Ph.D. program. All disciplines are considered. The current application round closes February 15, 2022. Learn more here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [NIH Brazil Regional Prospective Observational Research in Tuberculosis (RePORT) (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed)](#) – Letter of Intent Deadline: October 9, 2021; Application Deadline: November 8, 2021.
- NIH Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity (UE5 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed) – Application Deadline: November 18, 2021.
- NTDs Support Center Operational Research on "Endgame" Challenges – Application Deadline: Rolling.
- AfOx Travel and Starter Grants for collaborations between researchers at African institutions and the University of Oxford – Applications are open year-round.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<td>November 2-4, 2021</td>
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<td>November 17-21, 2021</td>
<td>ASTMH 2021 Meeting</td>
<td>National Harbor, MD, USA, and Virtual</td>
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October 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

BVGH and WIPO are looking forward to celebrating WIPO Re:Search’s 10th anniversary with all of you at our virtual event on Thursday, October 28. This event will showcase how IP and innovation are driving improved health and economic development in Africa—home to 40+ WIPO Re:Search Member organizations across 20 countries, as well as 50+ WIPO Re:Search collaborations. The event will feature a distinguished line-up of African scientists participating in WIPO Re:Search collaborations, additional regional partners, and WIPO Re:Search Member companies committed to advancing research and improving global health. Please check BVGH’s social media channels in the coming days for more information and a registration link, or contact Laurie Pfalzer at lpfalzer@bvgh.org.

In the lead-up to the Africa Regional Event, we invite you to read our new publication, *The First 10 Years of WIPO Re:Search: Catalyzing Global Collaboration and Innovation to Fight Neglected Tropical Diseases, Malaria, and Tuberculosis* and to tour the new WIPO Re:Search virtual exhibition, *IP for a Healthier World*. This month, the WIPO Re:Search leadership will convene executives from our Member companies to hear their valuable input on the Consortium’s first decade and their vision for the next 10 years. We look forward to sharing updates on the WIPO Re:Search 2022-2026 Strategic Plan in the coming months.

We congratulate GSK on the historic World Health Organization approval of the RTS,S malaria vaccine. The recent confirmation of resistance to artemisinin-based treatments in Africa underscores the importance of maintaining strong momentum in the fight against malaria—including the work by WIPO Re:Search collaborators to develop new antimalarial drugs with novel mechanisms of action.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Special Announcements

NIH Virtual Seminar on Program Funding and Grant Administration: November 1-4

Register [here](#) for this free seminar aimed at researchers and award administrators.

NIH May Accept Late Applications Due to Hurricanes

Natural disasters, including hurricanes, may slow down grant applications or submissions of financial or progress reports. If your institution has been affected by a natural disaster, learn more [here](#).

WIPO Re:Search Statistics

Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.

Cornerstones of Collaboration

Repurposing Rifamycins for *Mycobacterium abscessus* Infections

The collaboration between the [Novartis Institutes for Biomedical Research](#) and Dr. Thomas Dick, Hackensack Meridian Health, recently resulted in a publication in *Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy* entitled “Blocking Bacterial Naphthohydroquinone Oxidation and ADP-Ribosylation Improves Activity of Rifamycins against *Mycobacterium abscessus*.” The results provide proof of concept for the repurposing potential of rifamycins for *M. abscessus* disease by developing derivatives that resist both bacterial oxidation and ADP-ribosylation.

New Member Announcement

University of the Republic of Uruguay (UdelaR)
The University of the Republic of Uruguay (UdelaR) is the main institution of higher education and research in Uruguay. Founded in 1849 in Montevideo, UdelaR is the oldest public university in the country and the second largest university in South America. One of the university’s core objectives is to encourage research and the advancement of knowledge in all fields of science, technology, and society. Through initiatives such as the Sector Commission for Scientific Research, UdelaR provides its researchers with the opportunity to develop their research agendas and activities. Given its role as the leading research institution in Uruguay, UdelaR’s research programs are geared towards addressing the social, health, and economic challenges that are relevant to the people of Uruguay. With an undergraduate enrollment of nearly 140,000 students, UdelaR also places special emphasis on the incorporation and training of young researchers. In collaboration with a wide range of institutional and social actors, it also carries out multiple activities aimed at the socially valuable use of knowledge and the dissemination of culture.

IP in Focus

WIPO Re:Search Virtual Exhibition is Live!

To celebrate 10 years of WIPO Re:Search, the WIPO Knowledge Center is hosting a virtual exhibition, *IP for a Healthier World*, from October 4 to December 31, 2021. Tour the exhibition to learn more about the power of IP, innovation, and collaboration in advancing our common global health agenda.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine NRC Research Associateship Programs

The NRC Research Programs promote excellence in scientific and technological research conducted by the U.S. government by offering graduate, postdoctoral, and senior level research opportunities at sponsoring federal laboratories and affiliated institutions. Awards are for one year, with the opportunity to renew for up to three years dependent on evaluation. Senior awards may be shorter, and Summer Faculty awards are also available. Annual stipends range from $45,000 to $80,000 for recent doctoral recipients, and are proportionately higher for Senior Associates; health insurance, professional travel, and relocation are included. The next online application cycle opens December 1, 2021; applications are due February 1, 2022, 5 pm ET. Learn more here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- [NIH R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program, Notice of Special Interest for Secondary Analysis of Existing Datasets for Advancing Immune-mediated and Infectious Disease Research – Next Application Deadlines: October 16, 2021, and February 16, 2022](#).
- [Women for Africa Foundation Visiting Senior Research Fellowships – Application Deadline: October 30, 2021](#).
- [NIH Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity (UE5 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed) – Next Application Deadline: November 18, 2021](#).
- [NIH Systems Biology for Infectious Diseases (U19 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) – Letter of Intent Deadline: December 15, 2021; Application Deadline: January 14, 2022](#).
- [NIAID Research Education Program Advancing the Careers of a Diverse Research Workforce (R25 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) – Next Application Deadline: January 25, 2022](#).
- [Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) Iso Lomso Fellowship – Application Deadline: February 15, 2022](#).
- [NTDs Support Center Operational Research on "Endgame" Challenges – Application Deadline: Rolling](#).
For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email [Cathy Manner](mailto:Cathy.Manner@bvgh.org).

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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November 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

This month we are excited to launch a three-part webinar series with the Bayh-Dole Coalition, focusing on the important role of robust IP systems in catalyzing the development of and access to new solutions for diseases prevalent in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs):

- **November 10**: How IP Protections Can Bolster Technology Transfer and Commercialization Opportunities in Developing Countries. Register here.
- **March 10**: Delivering Demand-Driven Access to Cancer Medicines and Sharing Knowledge to Save Lives in Africa. Stay tuned for registration details.

This new webinar series aligns with and reinforces the major themes of last month’s WIPO Re:Search 10th anniversary regional event, which showcased the power of IP and innovation to drive health and economic development in Africa. We were proud to feature a distinguished line-up of African scientists participating in WIPO Re:Search collaborations, additional regional partners, and WIPO Re:Search Member companies committed to advancing research and improving global health.

A key message from the Africa Regional Event was the importance of training in IP management for innovators and leaders in LMICs. To address this need, our partners at WIPO have launched the Young Experts Program to nurture the next generation of global IP leaders. Additionally, WIPO Academy continues to offer a large portfolio of general and specialized courses on IP—many available online—for diverse audiences.

We are pleased to welcome the National Hansen's Disease Program (NHDP) to the WIPO Re:Search consortium.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Special Announcement

**Webinar: How IP Protections Can Bolster Technology Transfer and Commercialization Opportunities in Developing Countries**

Co-organized by BVGH and the Bayh-Dole Coalition, this panel—the first of a three-part series—discusses how R&D partnerships that protect IP rights can build commercialization and manufacturing capacity in developing countries, making them full partners in collaborations that will create needed therapies and health solutions. With an emphasis on technologies to fight infectious diseases and diseases of poverty, the panel will present examples of successful licensing and collaboration between public and private actors, and between institutions and businesses in developed and developing countries. Panelists will discuss the pivotal role IP protections play in engaging public, non-profit, and private institutions and driving the development and deployment of new health solutions for low-and-middle-income countries. Register for the November 10 panel [here](#), and save the dates for the other two panels in the series:

- **January 20, 2022**: Driving R&D and Access to Products for Diseases of Poverty
- **March 10, 2022**: Delivering Demand-Driven Access to Cancer Medicines and Sharing Knowledge to Save Lives in Africa

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**WIPO Re:Search Statistics**

- **56** Active Agreements
- **173** Agreements Established
- **159** Members
- **46** Countries
- **8** Advancing Agreements

Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search Members.
Click [here](#) for a list of WIPO Re:Search collaborations.
Click [here](#) to view the WIPO Re:Search Collaboration Pipeline.
Cornerstones of Collaboration

Sharing Expertise to Advance Schistosomiasis Drug Discovery

Knowledge exchange, and the sharing of expertise between the public and private sectors, not only leverages different R&D perspectives, but can be a key component in overcoming obstacles for neglected disease drug development. To support an ongoing collaboration for schistosomiasis drug discovery, MSD scientists Drs. Stephen Soisson, Alexei Brooun, James Dutko, Michael Eddins, and David Olsen engaged in discussions with investigators from Seattle Children’s Research Institute (SCRI) and the Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID) to troubleshoot and provide advice and expertise in support of SSGCID’s structural elucidation efforts for Schistosoma HMG-CoA reductase, a drug target for schistosomiasis.

Developing Alternatives to Praziquantel for Schistosomiasis Treatment

Schistosomiasis affects hundreds of millions of people worldwide, mostly in the world’s poorest countries. Praziquantel (PZQ) is the only medication currently used in mass drug administration programs, raising the risk of drug resistance. There is a critical need to develop new therapeutics that target essential pathways that are not affected by PZQ. Two new WIPO Re:Search collaborations are taking different approaches to address this need:
Dr. Emmanuel Oluwadare Balogun at Ahmadu Bello University (Nigeria) will screen the Open Global Health Library of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany to identify antischistosomal compounds with novel mechanisms of action.

Prof. Fabrice Boyom at the University of Yaoundé I (Cameroon) is interested in leveraging the therapeutic properties of local plants and other natural products to treat parasitic diseases. With support from Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, Dr. Jennifer Keiser at Swiss TPH will screen selected natural product extracts collected by Prof. Boyom for antischistosomal activity.

*The business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Electronics in the US and Canada.

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**New Member Announcement**

**National Hansen’s Disease Program (NHDP)**

The National Hansen’s Disease Program (NHDP), part of the US Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA), is the epicenter of Hansen's disease (leprosy) care, research and information in the US. The US Government established the predecessor of the NHDP, the National Leprosarium, in Carville, Louisiana, in 1917. Outpatient clinics were established in 1981. The National Hansen's Disease Laboratory Research Branch, located at the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine in Baton Rouge, conducts and supports research in the diagnosis, transmission, prevention, and treatment of leprosy. The Laboratory Research Branch has developed and implemented many of the newer sophisticated molecular biology tools used today to study leprosy. It plays an integral role in NHDP’s quest for a more complete understanding of Hansen's disease and the translation of basic research findings into an internationally coordinated program designed to improve diagnosis and treatment. The causative agent of leprosy is *Mycobacterium leprae*, an acid-fast, Gram positive bacterium. *M. leprae* is non-cultivable on laboratory medium and must be grown in animal models. Recently, a second leprosy causing bacterium, *M. lepromatosis*, has been identified. The Laboratory Research Branch has unique expertise in the propagation of leprosy bacilli, including the only colony of *M. leprae*-infected armadillos in the world.

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**IP in Focus**

**WIPO Launches New “Young Experts Program”**

WIPO’s new Young Experts Program (YEP) is aimed at forging the next generation of IP leaders. Successful applicants will join a two-year program hosted at WIPO designed to expose young people with high potential, particularly from developing and least developed countries as well as countries in transition, to the technical and policy aspects of IP. The program aims to gear them up for leadership positions within the innovation and creative ecosystems of their home countries and regions. Applications are being accepted through November 19, 2021. More information can be found here.

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**BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards**
Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) Travel Grants

Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) travel grants are awarded for research stays of up to three months. They support junior scientists who want to learn clearly defined methods useful for their ongoing research and their current laboratory by visiting another laboratory, or attending research-oriented courses with the practical part making up at least 50% of the course. The grants can also be used by Ph.D. candidates and their potential supervisors to evaluate the scientific and personal fit before the start of a Ph.D. project in another country, by funding a research stay of one to three months in the supervisor’s laboratory.

Applicants must be either from Europe or traveling to Europe; applications must be submitted at least six weeks, but not more than six months, before anticipated travel. Learn more here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- **NIH Maximizing Opportunities for Scientific and Academic Independent Careers (MOSAIC) Institutionally-Focused Research Education Award to Promote Diversity (UE5 - Clinical Trial Not Allowed)** – Next Application Deadline: December 14, 2021.
- **Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) Lomso Fellowship** – Application Deadline: February 15, 2022.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

Upcoming Global Health Events

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December 2021

Dear WIPO Re:Search Members and Friends,

As 2021 draws to a close, we look back with great pride at WIPO Re:Search’s accomplishments this year — including identification of small molecules with anthelmintic activity and natural products with antitubercular activity, as well as peer-reviewed publications reporting progress on WIPO Re:Search collaborations. We also welcomed organizations from Latin America, Africa, and the United States to the Consortium—including Anchor University Lagos (AUL), profiled below—and facilitated new cross-sector collaborations, including the compound screening projects described in this issue.

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, BVGH and WIPO transitioned the third round of the WIPO Re:Search Fellowship Program (supported by the Government of Australia through WIPO Funds-in-Trust) into a four-month virtual training seminar series focused on R&D and intellectual property (IP) management topics identified as high priorities by fellows. Industry, academic, and non-profit leaders—including former fellowship hosts—volunteered their time as expert trainers. BVGH and WIPO also conducted a first-of-its-kind virtual IP capacity building workshop for scientists and IP management professionals in Africa, the Asia-Pacific region, and Latin America. In alignment with WIPO Re:Search’s strategic objectives, the four-day workshop provided critical training to empower low- and middle-income countries to strategically manage their IP assets.

Additionally, WIPO Re:Search celebrated its 10th anniversary with a virtual event showcasing how IP and innovation are driving improved health and economic development in Africa—home to 40+ WIPO Re:Search Member organizations across 20 countries, as well as 50+ WIPO Re:Search collaborations. The event featured a distinguished line-up of African scientists participating in WIPO Re:Search collaborations, additional regional partners, and WIPO Re:Search Member companies committed to advancing research and improving global health.

Looking ahead to 2022, the work of our WIPO Re:Search investigators to combat malaria, tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases remains as important as ever as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. For example, the World Health Organization’s new World Malaria Report 2021 describes how the pandemic has disrupted malaria services, leading to marked increases in cases and deaths. We celebrate all of our WIPO Re:Search Members who are battling malaria and antimalarial resistance in a variety of ways, including leveraging of pharmaceutical industry assets to develop new drugs with novel modes of action.

Congratulations to Novartis on the new, BVGH-facilitated collaboration with the LOEWE Center DRUID to screen Novartis’ proprietary compounds in DRUID-developed malaria and leishmaniasis assays. Screening will occur through the Novartis FAST Lab Program.

As always, please share this Snapshot with your colleagues and reach out to us with any partnering requests or ideas.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dent, President & CEO
BIO Ventures for Global Health
Cornerstones of Collaboration

Advancing Drug Discovery for Human African Trypanosomiasis

Dr. Michael Pollastri, an organic and medicinal chemistry expert at Northeastern University, is developing drugs to treat neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) including human African trypanosomiasis (HAT). HAT, or sleeping sickness, is a parasitic disease endemic in 36 African countries, and 65 million people across the continent are at risk of being infected. Through WIPO Re:Search, BVGH connected Dr. Pollastri to AstraZeneca to further characterize promising anti-HAT compounds designed in his lab. To date, the company has provided critical data on absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) properties for nearly 1,700 compounds (representing 8,500 data points). Dr. Pollastri will use these data to select the compounds with the best “drug-like” profiles for continued development. According to Dr. Pollastri, “Our WIPO Re:Search collaboration with AstraZeneca has been an absolute game-changer for us, as we drive our multi-parameter optimization work for NTDs—and we owe it very much to BVGH for making the connection!”

Leveraging Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Open Global Health Library to Identify New Approaches to Treat Neglected Diseases

As part of its commitment to Open Innovation, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is making its Open Global Health Library available free of charge to scientists worldwide—including the WIPO Re:Search investigators below—to catalyze drug discovery research for a broad array of infectious diseases.
The only effective treatments for snakebite envenoming are antivenoms, medications made from antibodies against the components of venom. However, antivenoms are expensive to manufacture, and different antivenoms are required to treat the bites of different snake species. Prof. Nicholas Casewell at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (UK) aims to develop less costly, small-molecule therapies that inhibit toxins in venom. He will screen the Open Global Health Library to identify compounds that block the activity of such toxic enzymes.

Severe dengue, known as dengue hemorrhagic fever or dengue shock syndrome, is a leading cause of hospitalization and death in Asia and Latin America. There is no specific treatment for the disease. Dr. Tedjo Sasmono at the Eijkman Institute for Molecular Biology (Indonesia) will screen the Open Global Health Library to identify compounds that target pathways that are disrupted in severe dengue.

*The business sectors of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany operate as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Electronics in the US and Canada.*

New Member Announcement

Anchor University Lagos (AUL)

Anchor University Lagos (AUL) is a private, non-profit institution in Ayobo-Ipaja, Lagos, Nigeria. AUL’s mandate is to develop academically sound and spiritually vibrant individuals for national and global transformation. Founded in 2014, AUL comprises numerous departments across fields including biological science, chemical science, and global health. AUL and its ambitious interdisciplinary group of scholars utilize workshops and open lectures to engage with local and international government agencies, private organizations, NGOs, and more to explore and identify solutions to complex global health challenges. Research focuses of the university include cellular parasitology, biochemistry, and modelling conducted at several established laboratories accessible to students and faculty.

Member News

Prof. Collen Masimirembwa Receives Fellowship from Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Prof. Collen Masimirembwa, Founding President and Chief Scientific Officer of the African Institute of Biomedical Science and Technology (AiBST), has received a Calestous Juma Science Leadership Fellowship from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Prof. Masimirembwa will use the award to build a research and innovation ecosystem in Africa for drug and diagnostic discovery, using his work on precision medicine as a flagship. He will also forge strong partnerships with pharmaceutical companies to foster development of Africa’s biotechnology industry.
Prof. Fabrice Boyom Receives Funding for Schistosomiasis Screening

Congratulations to Prof. Fabrice Boyom at University of Yaoundé I, who received a Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Schistosomiasis Research Grant. He will use the funds to establish schistosomiasis screening activities in Cameroon.

Prof. Peter Cheuka Awarded Grant for Antischistosomal Drug Discovery

Congratulations to Prof. Peter Cheuka at University of Zambia, who received a Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany Schistosomiasis Research Grant. He will use the funds to identify synthetic compounds with antischistosomal activity.

Special Announcements

Professional Development Videos from Seeding Labs

Seeding Labs has a library of professional development videos that can be explored by category or discipline. Access them here.

NIH: Revised Progress Report Validations

If you are conducting a clinical trial that is funded by an NIH grant or cooperative agreement, check here to learn about updating your clinical trial registration and results reporting.

Monthly Seminars from Hospital for Tropical Diseases

The Hospital for Tropical Diseases (HTD) is celebrating 100 years with monthly seminars that are free to healthcare professionals and students. The series launches on January 27, 2022; learn more here.

BVGH FundFinder Featured Awards

Increasing Effectiveness of Delivery of Preventive Chemotherapy against NTDs

The Neglected Tropical Diseases Support Center (NTD-SC), a program of The Task Force for Global Health, with support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Coalition for Operational Research on Neglected Tropical Diseases (COR-NTD) grant, is soliciting proposals to improve the delivery of preventive chemotherapy for the elimination of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

Research proposed for this call will investigate and develop solutions to persistent challenges associated with the implementation of NTD programs, focusing on scalable solutions that can be incorporated into program implementation plans. With this call, the NTD-SC – which serves as Secretariat of the COR-NTD – seeks proposals that are nested within national programs and target lymphatic filariasis, onchocerciasis, or trachoma. Projects will be funded with support from USAID through the NTD-SC. The maximum award is $75,000 and the maximum project duration is twelve months. Submission Deadline: January 31, 2022. Learn more here.

Additional Funding Opportunities

- NIH Medical Scientist Training Program (T32) – Next Application Deadline: January 25, 2022.
• **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine NRC Research Associateship Programs** – Next Application Deadline: February 1, 2022.
• **NIH Research Project Grant (Parent R01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed), Notice of Special Interest** for Accelerating Malaria Vaccine Discovery – Next Application Deadline: February 5, 2022.
• **Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) Iso Lomso Fellowship** – Application Deadline: February 15, 2022.
• **NIH R21 Exploratory/Developmental Research Grant Program, Notice of Special Interest** for Secondary Analysis of Existing Datasets for Advancing Immune-mediated and Infectious Disease Research – Next Application Deadline: February 16, 2022.
• **Informa Connect Global Learning Scholarship Program** – Applications are due before your chosen course begins; the first course is March 7-10, 2022.
• **DAAD Scholarship Database** – Postgraduate scholarships for academic studies in Germany. Look here for important information for applicants.
• **Boehringer Ingelheim Fonds (BIF) Travel Grants** – Applications must be submitted at least six weeks, but not more than six months, before anticipated travel.

For more information about BVGH FundFinder, please email Cathy Manner.

### Upcoming Global Health Events

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<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 6-9, 2022</td>
<td>11th International Conference on Emerging Infectious Diseases 2022</td>
<td>Atlanta, Georgia, USA and Virtual</td>
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<td>June 17, 2022</td>
<td>RSTMH 47th Annual Topics in Infection</td>
<td>London and Virtual</td>
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<tr>
<td>August 1-6, 2022</td>
<td>WorldLeish 7</td>
<td>Cartagena, Colombia</td>
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