

# CARTANews

The newsletter of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa

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## News from the Secretariat

### Second Cohort of PhD Fellowships Awarded



Prof. Kramer (standing), Prof. Fonn and Dr. Ezech at the opening session of the 2nd Partners Forum held at Wits University

The second cohort of CARTA's PhD fellowships was picked at a forum held in South Africa in August last year.

A total of 20 candidates were selected from a pool of 85 applicants from across Africa.

The CARTA Partners' Forum was held at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, on August 17, 2011. The Forum was opened by Professor Beverly Kramer, the Assistant Dean for Research and Postgraduate Support in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the university.

Prof. Kramer welcomed participants to the University of the Witwatersrand and noted that the CARTA model was making great strides in creating a critical mass of quality researchers in the fields of health and population in Africa.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Meetings of CARTA Partners' Forum, Funders, and Board of Management: August 27 - 29, 2012, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.
- 3rd CARTA/DelPHE Faculty and Staff Training Workshop: August 30 - September 1, 2012, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.
- Vice Chancellors' Meeting: November 19 - 20 2012, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Cohort 2 Joint Advanced Seminar Series (JAS II): November 12, 2012 - December 6, 2012, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

## About CARTANews

The aim of this newsletter is to keep collaborative advanced research training practitioners, researchers and policy makers informed about recent developments in the CARTA Initiative. Specific objectives of the CARTA Newsletter are:

- To serve as an African resource for academics, researchers, and doctoral students, engaged in advanced population and public health education.
- To encourage cooperation and exchange of expertise among public health scholars in order to maximize available resources.
- To serve as a medium for trainers to follow up on contemporary debates and issues related to research capacity strengthening.

Periodically, *CARTANews* contains articles exploring specific issues for discussion and offers concrete strategies and ideas for resolving them, and encourages creative problem-solving and ongoing debate. We hope it is useful. For further information, visit our website [www.cartafrika.org](http://www.cartafrika.org). We welcome your comments, suggestions, and submissions to The *CARTANews*. Email us at [carta@aphrc.org](mailto:carta@aphrc.org).

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## Welcome Message from the Program Manager



Dr. Wilson Wasike

Welcome back to the *CARTANews*! We took a brief hiatus from publication of our newsletter while upgrading the resources we use to create it. That effort has resulted in many changes to the newsletter, as well as a change in publication frequency!

Beginning with this issue, the *CARTANews* will not be published quarterly. Instead, the newsletter will be published semi-annually; current news and forthcoming events will continue to be posted on our website, available for viewing at your convenience.

The *CARTANews* may have a new frequency, but I hope you will find the content is unwavering and richer in programmatic content. The purpose of the newsletter is to inform, enlighten, and occasionally, perhaps entertain you. I

believe this issue will accomplish all those goals! The lead story concerns award of new CARTA PhD fellowships to young scholars drawn from several CARTA partner universities and institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa.

You will also find more news from the secretariat, as well as information about CARTA fellows and other CARTA activities.

As always, we welcome and appreciate your suggestions, so please do let us know your ideas. Your comments, questions and suggestions help us to better serve you!

Thank you,  
Wilson Wasike

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### Cohort 2 PhD Fellowships, 2011/12: Applications and Awards

	Total Applicants	Nominees	Fellowship Awardees
<b>African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC)</b>	1	1	1
<b>Ifakara Health Institute</b>	1	1	1
<b>Makerere University</b>	17	11	4
<b>Moi University</b>	3	2	0
<b>National University of Rwanda</b>	2	1	0
<b>Obafemi Awolowo University</b>	6	6	1
<b>University of Dar es Salaam</b>	1	1	1
<b>University of Ibadan</b>	12	6	3
<b>University of Malawi</b>	14	5	4
<b>University of Nairobi</b>	8	6	2
<b>University of the Witwatersrand</b>	13	6	3
<b>Non-CARTA institutions</b>	7	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	85	46	20

Focal persons from each institution presented reports of CARTA activities at their institutions. The reports focused on the progress made by CARTA fellows, the status of infrastructure development, and the challenges faced during the implementation of CARTA program activities.

The highlight of the meeting was the selection of CARTA's second cohort of PhD fellowship awardees.



**Research title:** The impact of parental health on children's enrolment, attendance and achievement among the urban poor in Kenya

Maurice Mutisya,  
APHRC



**Research title:** Malaria and filariasis co-infection during pregnancy: Impacts on the immune response and pregnancy outcomes

Gabriel Tumwine,  
Makerere University



**Research title:** Active case-finding with the Mobile Xpert™ MTB/RIF Unit (MXU) to improve TB detection Rates in High Burden Settings.

Humphrey Jacob Phanuel Shao,  
Ifakara Health Institute



**Research title:** Herpes Simplex Virus type 2 in pregnancy: Burden for Premature Rupture of Membranes (PROM), incidence of sero-conversion and acyclovir effect on adverse outcomes.

Sarah Nakubulwa, Makerere University



**Research title:** Determinants of Healthcare Utilization among the older peoples in Uganda

Stephen Ojiambo Wandera, Makerere University



**Research title:** Sexual and Reproductive Health and health related quality of health care of HIV perinatally infected young people in rural Uganda

Scovia Nalugo Mbalinda, Makerere University



**Research title:** Wealth Quintile and Fertility Differentials Among Households in Nigeria

Mary Oluwafunke Obiyan  
Obafemi Awolowo University



**Research title:** Knowledge, Attitude and Practice of Post Abortion Care Services in Tanzania

Evaline Mcharo, University of Dar es Salaam



**Research title:** A Model for Measuring Association Between the Recurrence Times of Bivariate Censored Outcomes in Bipolar Disorders

Francis Adeniyi Fagbamigbe, University of Ibadan



**Research title:** Genetic Epidemiology of Streptomycin Induced Deafness in Nigeria

Adebolajo Adewunmi Adeyemo  
University of Ibadan



**Research title:** Impact of Environmental Pollution on the Prevalence of Soil Transmitted Helminthes Infection among Primary School Children in Ibadan

Olufunke Abiodun Oluwaloba  
University of Ibadan



**Research title:** An Investigation to Determine if Malaria Infection in Humans Alters Susceptibility to HIV Infection

Gloria Susan Omosa Manyonyi  
University of Nairobi



**Research title:** Investigating the Effect of Daily Cotrimoxazole Prophylaxis on the Acquisition of Malaria Specific Immunity in HIV Exposed and Infected Children

Herbert Hudson Thulasoni Longwe  
University of Malawi



**Research title:** Optimal (Control of) Intervention Strategies for Malaria – TB Co-Infection

Peter Mpasho Mwamtobe  
University of Malawi



**Research title:** Contribution of Domestic Waste Water Treatment Plants to Proliferation of Schistosomiasis and Pollution of Aquatic Resources and Ability Herbaceous Plants for Waste Water Treatment

Austin Henderson Mtethiwa  
University of Malawi



**Research title:** The Feasibility of Male Involvement in Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission of HIV Services in Blantyre Malawi

Linda Alinane Mipando  
University of Malawi



**Research title:** HIV and Aging: The Impact of HIV on the Quality of Life among the Elderly in Kenya

John Njuguna Njenga  
University of Nairobi



**Research title:** Clinical Epidemiology of Vitamin D Status in HIV Infected Patients in South Africa

Simbarashe Takuva  
University of Witwatersrand



**Research title:** Impact of an Education Programme on Coaches' Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices on Injury Prevention amongst Football Players

Primrose Theodorah Siphesihle Mtshali  
University of Witwatersrand



## Board of CARTA Management Meets



CARTA Board Members. Seated front from left: Prof. Frances Griffiths, Dr. Alex Ezech, Prof. Sharon Fonn, Prof. Akinyinka Omigbodun. Standing from left: Prof. Margaret Thorogood, Prof. Rama Rao, Dr. Wilson Mandala and Dr. Honorati Masanja

It's all systems go for the CARTA Board of Management: It approved the list of the second cohort of CARTA PhD fellows, reviewed the achievements of the past one year, and sanctioned CARTA's annual road map.

These developments were realized at the second semi-annual meeting for 2011 held at the University of the Witwatersrand on August 18 – 19, 2011.

The Board also held the first meeting for 2012 on March 28, 2012 at the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC). The Board deliberated on various management issues including the timing of key CARTA program activities for 2012, including the Partners' Forum, the curriculum review for the second Joint Advanced Seminar (JAS II) for the second cohort of CARTA fellows.

## CARTA Officials Monitor Progress at Ifakara Health Institute

Two CARTA staff visited the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) in Dar es Salaam from February 2 – 3, 2012 to monitor progress on implementation of CARTA activities.

Mr. Stephen Okoth, the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, and Mr. Makau Ngola, the Communications Officer, held extensive discussions with Ifakara staff on the CARTA program during the visit.

Dr. Honorati Masanja, CARTA's focal person at IHI led the officials on a tour of the facilities to showcase various equipment, notably networking cabling and internet installations and the infrastructure installed at the institution with CARTA support. Dr. Masanja expressed appreciation for the CARTA support, saying that the infrastructural support had enabled IHI to have reliable internet access.



Stephen Okoth confers with Ms. Rahima Dossa of Ifakara Health Institute during the monitoring visit

## Yes, Wasike is CARTA Program Manager

Dr. Wilson Wasike is the CARTA Program Manager.

He joined APHRC in February 2012. Before joining APHRC, Dr. Wasike was the Program Manager in charge of the collaborative Masters and PhD degree programs in sub-Saharan Africa at the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC).

Dr. Wasike brings to CARTA significant experience in university scholarship, public policy analysis and research, as well as designing, implementing and managing capacity strengthening programs in Africa, including graduate training and private sector development.

He holds a first class BA (Hons), M.Phil., MA and PhD degrees in Economics from universities of Nairobi, Moi, Leeds and Stirling, respectively.

Dr. Wasike has published in international journals. He has also published chapters in books and monographs in the areas of infrastructure, resource and environmental economics and policy development. On joining CARTA, Dr. Wasike said, "I look forward to managing and strengthening the APHRC Wits-led Program, and meeting the many partners involved in this business of building capacity for health and development research on the African continent."

# CARTA Dialogue

## CARTA Reviews Curriculum for Joint Advanced Seminars

Two curriculum review meetings for the Joint Seminars (JAS) have been held over the past six months. The CARTA Secretariat hosted a workshop to review the curriculum for the first Joint Advanced Seminar in Johannesburg, South Africa, from January 29 – February 1, 2012.

Participants revised the JAS I curriculum in preparation for teaching of the second cohort of CARTA fellows.

A second, more comprehensive JAS curriculum review meeting was held at the University of Warwick Medical School from June 28 to July 1, 2012. The curriculum discussions, held at the Scarman Training and Conference Centre, were led by Dr Alex Ezeh, CARTA Director; Prof Sharon Fonn, CARTA Deputy Director; and Professor Akinyinka Omigbodun. Professors Frances Griffiths and Margaret Thorogood of the Warwick Medical School also led in the curriculum discussions.

Participants reviewed the curriculum for the first and second Joint Advanced Seminars (JAS I and JAS II) in preparation for the seminars to be held later this year (November for JAS II for the second cohort) and early next year (March for JAS I for the third cohort).



A group photograph of the CARTA curriculum developers, University of Warwick, June 2012

Participants also discussed the objectives of JAS III and JAS IV that are yet to be held for any cohort, and developed draft curricula. Ways of evaluating JAS sessions were also revisited as well as the process of engaging supervisors and universities for effective PhD teaching and supervision for the benefit of the fellows.

In accordance with the CARTA philosophy of inclusion of partner institutions, participants in the two curriculum review meetings were drawn

from nearly all CARTA partner institutions: APHRC, the Canadian Coalition for Global Health Research based at the University of Toronto, the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) at Kilifi, Makerere University, Moi University, Monash University, Obafemi Awolowo University, University of Gothenburg, University of Ibadan, University of Malawi, University of Nairobi, and the University of the Witwatersrand.

## Ezeh Speaks at BIARI Population and Development Institute

How can theories and methods in the social sciences contribute to understanding the relationship between population and development? And how can this scholarship contribute to better policies and programs?

These were some of the vexing questions at the Population and Development

workshop held at the Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI) from June 9-23, 2012 in Providence, Rhode Island, United States of America.

Dr. Alex Ezeh, the Executive Director of the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) and Director of the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA), made a presentation on the CARTA program outlining the experiences, challenges and lessons learnt, and delineating the next steps on the program.

Dr. Ezeh participated as a visiting faculty of the BIARI Population and Development Institute. BIARI was inaugu-



Dr. Alex Ezeh

rated in 2009 and convenes annually and during the summer. Four high level academic Institutes aimed at fostering academic networking among young faculty have been held to offer opportunities for scholarly development.

BIARI provides young scholars and researchers with cutting-edge interdisciplinary training, help build a professional community and intellectual networks in the Global South, and offer each participant individualized assistance in developing their own research project. There are four institutes within the BIARI program: Climate Change and its Impact, Global Health and HIV/AIDS, Theatre and Civil Society, and Population and Development.

In addition to giving a lecture, Dr. Ezeh also spent time interacting with the participants and offering feedback on research project proposals. Mr. Sulaimon Afolabi, a CARTA PhD fellow studying at the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa, was among the participants in Dr. Ezeh's class.

## CARTA Director addresses the Carnegie Board of Directors

The CARTA program is contributing to excellence, retention and sustainability of graduate training programs in the region, Dr. Alex Ezeh, APHRC's Executive Director and the Director of the CARTA Program, has affirmed.

The Executive Director stated this at a meeting of the Carnegie Corporation Board of Directors held in New York on June 14, 2012. During the meeting, Dr. Ezeh spoke about the ways in which the CARTA program was buttressing graduate training and scholarship in areas such as joint advanced seminars, peer-review mechanism, and supervisors' training.

He acknowledged Carnegie Corporation's continued support to the CARTA Program. The presentation was made during the session on International Program: Higher Education and Libraries in Africa: Progress and Challenges from the Perspective of African Educator.



## Ezeh and Thorogood share experiences with African institutions at the Wellcome Trust

Wellcome Trust convened a meeting of African Institutions Initiative (All) Directors to share and learn from the experiences of each consortium and get to know the collaborations they have with their Northern Partners.

The meeting focused on Northern Partners and was held at the Wellcome Trust, London, United Kingdom, from June 26-28, 2012.

All comprises a set of consortia that includes CARTA.

Other members are One Health Initiative - African Research Consortium for Ecosystem and Population Health, One Medicine Africa-UK Research Capacity Development Partnership Programme for Infectious Diseases in Southern Africa (SACIDS consortium), Research Institute for Infectious Diseases of Poverty (IIDP), Southern Africa Consortium for Research Excellence (SACORE), Strengthening Research Capacity in Environmental Health (SNOWS), and Training Health Researchers into Vocational Excellence in East Africa (THRIVE).

Each consortium operates independently and sets its own agenda. For more information on African Institutions Initiative, visit <http://africaninstitutionsinitiative.org/>

CARTA was represented in the meeting by the Director, Dr. Alex Ezeh, and Professor Margaret Thorogood of the University of Warwick. Professor Thorogood made a presentation on CARTA's training courses, dwelling on CARTA's experience in conducting PhD Joint Advanced Seminars (JAS) for CARTA fellows.



Prof. Margaret Thorogood

Other CARTA representatives at the meeting were Professors Lenore Manderson (Monash University), Donald Cole (University of Toronto), Göran Bondjers (Gothenburg University), Frances Griffiths (University of Warwick) and John Reeder (WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases).

## PhD Training, Supervision and Mentorship

### Cohort 1 Joint Advanced Seminar II

The first cohort of CARTA Fellows participated in their second Joint Advanced Seminar (JAS II) designed to equip the fellows with skills to use data management and analysis software packages for qualitative and quantitative data management and analyses.

Practice sessions using real research data and current software packages for hands-on training were availed to the fellows.

The residential month-long event was held at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, from November 21 to December 16, 2011.

Participants engaged in lectures, field activities, and skills building workshops aimed at improving their data management and analysis skills. The JAS was coordinated by Prof Margaret Thorogood of the University of the Warwick Medical School and Prof Sharon Fonn, the immediate past Head of the School of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Fellows also had the opportunity to participate in guest lectures. One of the key guest lectures was delivered by Dr.



CARTA cohort 1 fellows during JAS 2 held in Johannesburg, South Africa

Soledad Falabella, the Director of ESE:O, a non-profit organization based in Santiago, Chile, that works in research and capacity building through writing and online environments. Her lecture entitled "Knowledge, writing and power in academia: how to use technology and capacity building in writing

and publishing to your advantage" focused on the potential of new technologies to support research and scholarship among scholars in the global south.

ESE:O provides an online writing support training workshop for CARTA fellows that is aimed at improving fellows' professional writing skills.



## CARTA Manager at the 4th THRIVE Annual General Meeting

The CARTA Program Manager, Dr. Wilson Wasike, participated in a forum to share the CARTA accomplishments and participated in dialogue on strengthening research capacity in Africa.

The forum was the 4th THRIVE Annual General Meeting held on 18-20th June 2012 at ICIPE Duduville Campus in Nairobi, Kenya. THRIVE (Training Health Researchers into Vocational Excellence in East Africa) is a consortium in the African Institutions Initiative (AII) sponsored by WellCome Trust like CARTA.

The theme of the meeting was Functioning as a Network to Achieve THRIVE Objectives.



Cohort 1 fellows and their Supervisors during JAS I training in Nairobi, Kenya

## Cohort 1 Supervisors' Training

Supervisors of the first cohort of CARTA fellows attended a two-day meeting meant to update them on the progress made by their students and on other CARTA program activities.

The meeting was held from December 1 -2, 2011 during the JAS II event. Supervisors also had a unique opportunity to interact with their students and with other supervisors and share experiences and reflect on the progress of the CARTA program.

Participants expressed their satisfaction with the efforts of the CARTA program to support their capacity to supervise graduate students.

PhD supervisor training is predicated on the fact that the quality of supervision of doctoral students is weak. Furthermore, most of academic workforce on the continent is ageing or overstretched by other responsibilities including student supervision, teaching, advisory services to governmental and non-governmental authorities. Hence, the training is designed to develop doctoral supervisory skills among new academics qualified at doctoral levels in the CARTA participating universities.



Cohort 2 fellows during JAS I training at the KEMRI Training complex in Kilifi, Kenya

## Cohort 2 Joint Advanced Seminar I

The second cohort of 19 CARTA Fellows participated in their first Joint Advanced Seminar (JAS I) from March 5, 2012 to March 30, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya, due to unavoidable circumstances, one of the selected applicants voluntarily withdrew. JAS I aims at building critical thinking and introducing fellows to essential concepts and seminal articles in public and population health.

The sessions were facilitated by renowned academicians from the South and the North and included a series of lectures, group activities and field trips.

During the third week, fellows had the opportunity to visit the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI Wellcome Trust) facility in Kilifi. The facility hosts one of the best research laboratories in the region.

To expose the Fellows to real health setting situations where research, treatment, and community engagement occur, a visit to the Ganze District Hospital and a meeting with KEMRI Community Representatives (KCR) at the Mtondia Dispensary at Tezo area in Kilifi were conducted.

The meeting with KCR members, including the area chief, sub-chief, community representatives, helped to highlight the community's concerns in a research setting, particularly ethical concerns, and how the issues identified are resolved.

One notable recommendation arising from the KEMRI visit and interaction with KEMRI staff, was the circulation of fellows' research areas to KEMRI staff to explore the possibility of co-supervision and other possible involvement to improve on the research.

The fellows expressed appreciation, citing the excellent organization by the KEMRI Wellcome Trust facility represented by CARTA focal person, Dr. Samson Kinyanjui, who is the Head of Capacity Development at the KEMRI-Wellcome Research Centre.



KEMRI/Kilifi Community Representatives discuss community engagement strategies with cohort 2 fellows during JAS I



## Cohort 2 Supervisors' Training

Supervisors of the second cohort of Fellows were trained in Nairobi in March 2012 during the last week of JAS I where, for new supervisors to CARTA, they were introduced to the

CARTA philosophy, and given a refresher training on PhD supervision.

The supervisors also had the opportunity to attend fellows' research presentations and to interact with their students in one-on-one sessions.

## On a Lighter Note!

### Our JAS I Flight Segment of 2012

By Adebolajo Adewunmi Adeyemo (CARTA PhD Fellow at University of Ibadan & Cohort 2 Representative)

The process started in April 2011 when the call for application for CARTA doctoral fellowships was issued. That was the second call issued by CARTA. Budding scholars from West, East, Central, and Southern Africa threw their hats into the ring to compete for the limited seats available on the CARTA vessel.

After a grinding process of assignments and deadlines, 19 new fellows (11 men and 8 women) were selected for the prestigious CARTA fellowships. From 4th March 2012 to 30th March 2012 the young scholars converged at the Oak Training and Conference Centre in Nairobi, Kenya, to start what is hoped will be a lifelong partnership in quality research and contribution to science.

Right from the start it was obvious the heavens had decided to smile on this particular cohort of CARTA fellows. The month of March was supposed to be a rainy period in Nairobi but surprisingly the rains were delayed. The first few days were spent mostly in breaking the ice as Ugandans, Zimbabweans, Malawians, Kenyans, South Africans, Tanzanians and Nigerians compared notes, pulled down barriers and forged new alliances. We decided that our efforts would not slip away and, so, the entire group decided to publish a paper from the interviews conducted as part of pre-JAS assignments. Our other talents were made manifest at the pottery session where we made and painted clay pots.

The second week was spent re-modeling our research topics. We were introduced to new concepts and styles and the realization that a doctoral work is like 'a call to arms'- it cannot be taken with levity. Some members of the group decided to examine the nightlife in Nairobi probably as part of their epistemological approach while others, chose comfort in the serene pool of the hotel. In a manner similar to the wildebeest migration in the famed Serengeti National Park, group members migrated from Kiota Place to bungalows within the Oak hotel premises with bags and belongings in tow.

The group decided to have a social event-a dinner party to cement our bonding effort and also (incidentally) mark Sophie's birthday. It was fun learning South African dance-steps from Sophie and listening to incredible, and heart-warming tales from Stephen and Gabriel. The third week saw us in Kilifi - the home of KEMRI-Wellcome Trust

research centre. The pleasure of the short but hot airlift was diluted by the slow speed of the bus that took us from Mombasa to Kilifi. We had spent forty-five minutes to traverse the country from Nairobi to the coast region but spent ninety donkey minutes to travel less than 100 kilometers to Kilifi. However, the beauty of Minarani Beach Club where we finally checked in quickly erased the gloom caused by the drive. The natural beauty of the Club's grounds and its immediate environment defined by cliffs overlooking the Indian Ocean and the Kilifi Creek as well as the rich flora and fauna unquestionably lent credence to the resort's motto of "heaven is a place on earth". Soon after we settled down in our rooms, the instincts to explore took over. The swimming pool at the club beckoned at Simba and a host of others who wanted to emulate our star swimmers in the cohort – Scovia and John – and probably win Olympic gold medals in swimming in their next lives.



Bola Adeyemo, cohort 2 representative (second right) with cohort 2 colleagues in Kilifi, Kenya

Samson, our Kilifi host, like other members of his team, was exceptional. The entire KEMRI group introduced us to DSS research, clinical trials, health systems and a host of other pertinent topics. The dinner at the beach side was quite eventful: Adeniyi, the Igwe, led the dance session with Ryan (baby CARTA)

also participating in the fun. Maurice drew love symbols in the sand while other members discovered their hidden talents as they sang karaoke into the night.

The last week started on a sober note when our supervisors joined us at the OakPlace. A noticeable change was seen in the dressing and conduct of the fellows. The week passed fairly quickly but not before the fellows had a fresh opportunity to bond with their supervisors outside their normal work settings. The carnivorous dinner at the Safari Park Hotel and Club was relaxing and very filling.

By the end of the week it was obvious everyone's learning expectations of the JAS I workshop had been met. The last workday was marked with a visit to APHRC campus where we had the opportunity to see leading African researchers in situ and understand the inner dynamics of the CARTA secretariat. Surely, the whole experience would not have been so wonderful without the great efforts of the CARTA staff. A whole heap of praise and cheers go to Drs Ezeh, Izugbara (known familiarly as "Chima"), Wasike (Wilson), Kabiru (Caroline), Eva, Joyce and Makau. We are looking forward to the JAS2 workshop of our PhD flight.



# Institutional Capacity Strengthening

## Second Faculty and Administrators' Workshop

As part of its efforts to strengthen doctoral training and build university-wide systems that support public health research in sub-Saharan Africa, the CARTA Consortium runs a series of capacity building workshops for faculty and administrative staff.

The workshops seek to impart skills and share experiences on critical issues in research management and institutional administration with a view to promoting quality and effective research as well as building a strong research culture, and financial management systems in a vibrant multidisciplinary African academy.

The workshops first cover the core aspects of research administration: research-student supervision, institutional compliance responsibilities, proposal creation and submission, contract and sub-contract review, and post award financial administration. This is followed by leveraging technology to improve learning experience; providing access to information; effective use of IT as a networking tool, for M&E and for administration; recruitment and enrolment of postgraduate students; staff mentoring and retention; and information access.

Each of these topics is explored through a combination of case study analysis and discussion.

In collaboration with the Ifakara Health Institute (IHI), Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, CARTA organized a second research leadership and institutional management workshop for faculty and administrators from CARTA member-institutions. The first was held in March 2011.

The workshop was held from January 30- February 1, 2012 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and aimed to expose participants to current and best practices in graduate training, supervision, and mentoring; and research leadership and management. Seventy five participants including finance administrators, university librarians, information technology specialists, registrars, and lecturers attended the workshop.

In his welcome address, the Director-General of the Tanzania Com-



A session of the Second Faculty and Administrators Workshop Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



Dr. Hassan Mshinda (left), with Dr. Alex Ezeh during the opening of the 2nd Faculty and Administrators Workshop in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

mission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), Dr Hassan Mshinda, encouraged participants to adopt the lessons and skills learnt from the workshop in their work.

Professor Ademola Ajuwon, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at the University of Ibadan, delivered the keynote address on behalf of Vice Professor Isaac Adewole, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ibadan. He emphasized the importance of research-active African universities and underscored the role of research in ensuring national development. He highlighted the challenges of conducting research in African institutions and encouraged African universities to engage the industry and governments in collaborative ventures to promote

research. The workshop was facilitated by a team of experts from sub-Saharan Africa and the United Kingdom.

Participants expressed appreciation for the workshop. Oyediran Oyewole of the University of Ibadan also, in appreciation, wrote of the workshop, "It was a privilege to be part of this great and wonderful team of intellectuals. I will say it was as opportunity of a lifetime! ... I consider CARTA a great movement that will shape the future of African scientists beyond human imagination. I hope there is a structure on ground to continuously monitor the progress of the participants in line with the CARTA goals."

Other testimonies on the success of the workshop are presented in the following quotations:

Dear CARTA Team,

Thanks for giving me the opportunity to learn at CARTA's workshop for administrators and junior faculty in Dar es Salaam last week. The experience was wonderful and has helped to broaden my horizon. Every moment was interesting, especially the lectures delivered, and the forum created for networking with other participants. Indeed, it is a life-changing workshop that will set the pace for my future in the academia. Thanks for the opportunity to learn. I am very grateful. With deep appreciation.

**Richard Edelstein, a Research Associate at Berkeley's Center for Studies in Higher Education, had this to say about CARTA, in a communication (12-10-2011) with Prof Sharon, Deputy Director of CARTA.**

We salute CARTA secretariat for the good work done in organizing and delivering the workshop. As participants, we really benefited from the presentations and networking opportunities availed. Let's keep the CARTA candle-light on!

**Moi University participant, Faculty and Administrators' workshop**

It was nice being with people of different professional backgrounds, experiences and challenges. To me administrative problems facing African universities are really the same and there is need, as it clearly emerged, to share them and get common solutions. I hope management of research and post graduate programs are the only ways to have our universities ranked. I hope what we learnt shall go a long way in addressing our institutional challenges. Thank you

**Moi University participant, 2nd Faculty and Administrators' workshop**

It was a privilege to be part of this great and wonderful team of intellectuals. I will say it was an opportunity of a lifetime! I don't want to belabor the fact that you are appreciated by everybody. I jokingly shared with some participants that I hope we will still come back again! I consider CARTA a great movement that will shape the future of African scientists beyond human imagination. I hope there is a structure on the ground to continually monitor the progress of the participants in line with the CARTA goals. Thank you so much for sharing your ingenious knowledge with us all. God bless you.

**University of Ibadan participant, Second Faculty and Administrators' workshop**

I wanted to let you know how very warmly Warwick is viewed at the Carnegie Foundation in the context of CARTA. The programme officer with whom we met sang your praises, within the context of a very positive evaluation of the wider programme. It's great to be associated with this excellent initiative.

**Professor Finn Margot (Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Warwick) said this about CARTA in a communication (7/11/2011) to Margaret Thoroughgood (Warwick) after paying a visit to the Carnegie Corporation of New York.**

## Founding of the Consortium of CARTA Librarians Network

A team of librarians have formed the Consortium of CARTA Librarians (CCL) Network, an inter-regional collaboration of libraries in the universities participating in the organization.

The network was formed following the faculty and administrators workshop held January 30- February 1, 2012. The group is led by Ms. Obasola Oluwaseun, of the Medical Library, College of Medicine, University of Ibadan, and coordinated from the CARTA Secretariat. It has a web page at [www.cartafrica.org](http://www.cartafrica.org).

The CCL aims at facilitating the compilation, digitization, and archiving of academic publications such as graduate and postgraduate theses from CARTA institutions in an electronic library for the purpose of knowledge sharing through a web interface via the Internet.

## Spotlight on CARTA Fellows

### Sunday Adepoju Adedini's PhD research protocol approved



Sunday Adedini cohort 1 fellow

Sunday Adepoju Adedini, a fellow in the first cohort and faculty member at Obafemi Awolowo University, has made progress in his PhD studies.

His PhD research proposal entitled "The influence of

contextual determinants of infant and child mortality in Nigeria" has been approved by the Postgraduate Office, Faculty of Humanities, University of the Witwatersrand.

Sunday also had two abstracts based on his PhD research accepted for presentation at the Sixth African Population Conference, 5-9 December 2011 in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, and at the International Conference on Family Planning, held on November 29 – December 2, 2011 in, Dakar, Senegal.

As the meetings coincided with the second Joint Advanced Seminar, the papers were presented on his behalf.

### Peter Nyasulu Attends 1st Global Forum on Bacterial Infections in India



Peter Nyasulu, cohort 1 fellow

Peter Nyasulu, a fellow in the first cohort and researcher at the University of the Witwatersrand, participated in the 1st Global Forum on Bacterial Infections held in New Delhi India from 3 – 5 October 2011.

At the meeting, Peter presented a poster on "Changing the landscape of antimicrobial resistance among nosocomial pathogens in South Africa: Systematic review of published literature".

Peter's participation at the conference was funded by the CARTA.



## Rose Opiyo Attends the Wits Clinical Trials Course

Rose Opiyo, a Fellow in the first cohort and faculty member at the University of Nairobi, attended a Clinical Trials Course from September 12 – 16, 2011 at the School of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Rose, whose research is on the “Role of Omega-3 fatty Acids on Depression among HIV-seropositive Pregnant Women,” noted

that the course enabled her to modify the methodology of her research. She said, “The wealth of hands-on experiences on clinical research planning, grant writing, management and implementation that were shared by the course facilitators during the training made a lot of difference in my understanding of a clinical trials.” Rose’s participation at the course was funded by the CARTA.



Rose Opiyo, Cohort 1 Fellow

## Sulaimon Afolabi at BIARI

From June 9-23, 2012, Brown University (in Providence, RI, USA), hosted an international residential institute designed to enhance the scholarship, research, methodological skills, training, and networks of early-career social scientists from less developed countries.

Participants received tailored feedback on their research ideas and met and interacted with more than 20 of the world’s leaders in population and development studies over the course of the two-week institute. In addition to providing cutting-edge and personalized training, Brown University aims, through the institute, to help foster collaborations between the Global North and Global South, as well as among scholars from different developing regions across the world.

CARTA’s flag at the Brown University’s International Advanced Research Institutes initiative (BIARI), was flown by Sulaimon Afolabi, a

CARTA Fellow cohort 1. Afolabi expressed his gratitude to the CARTA Secretariat for sharing information on the opportunity. The CARTA’s Secretariat regularly shares information on conferences, calls for papers, and funding opportunities with CARTA fellows.

Writing about the importance of participating in BIARI 2012, Afolabi reports: “The BIARI was a great avenue for me, as a participant, to create new research networks. I was able to meet other BIARI fellows with similar research interest that I can collaborate with in the nearest future. Also, the diverse countries represented at the workshop made it possible for me to get global perspectives on the local issues in my country of residence. Furthermore, it was a great opportunity for me to interact with great scholars in my field of research and to be exposed to current methods of research in my field.”



The diverse countries represented at the workshop made it possible for me to get global perspectives on the local issues in my country of residence



Afolabi receives a certificate of BIARI participation from Prof. Daniel J Smith (P&D Convener). Looking on are Prof. Keith Brown (BIARI Director) and Dr. Bianca Dahl (P&D Co-Convener)

## Selected Publications by CARTA Fellows

- Okonkwo, N.S., Ojengbede, O.A., Morhason-Bello, I.O., **Adedokun, B.O.**, 2012 Maternal demand for cesarean section: perception and willingness to request by Nigerian antenatal clients. *Int J Womens Health* 4:141-8. Epub Link: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22505833>
- Morhason-Bello, I.O., Ojengbede, O.A., **Adedokun, B.O.**, Okonkwo, N.S., Kolade, C., 2012 Theories of urinary incontinence causation: aetiological descriptions by sub-Saharan African women. *Eur J Obstet Gynecol Reprod Biol.* 162(1):109-12. Epub Feb 28. Link: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22377228>
- Atalabi, O.M., Morhason-Bello, I.O., Adekanmi, A.J., Marinho, A.O., **Adedokun, B.O.**, Kalejaiye, A.O., Sogo, K., Gbadamosi, S.A., 2012 Transvaginal ultrasonography: a survey of the acceptability and its predictors among a native African women population. *Int J Womens Health* 4:1-6. Epub 2011 Dec 29. Link: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22312194>
- Fagbamigbe A.F, Akinyemi J.O, **Adedokun B.O.**, Bamgboye E.A. 2011 Gender variation in self-reported likelihood of HIV infection in comparison with HIV test results in rural and urban Nigeria. *AIDS Res Ther.* Dec 21; 8:44. Link: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22185294>
- Obajimi M.O, Adeniji-Sofoluwe A.T, Oluwasola A.O, **Adedokun B.O.**, Soyemi T.O, Olopade F, Newstead G 2011 Mammographic breast pattern in Nigerian women in Ibadan, Nigeria *Breast Dis* 1;33(1):9-15. Link: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/21778578>
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- Niwemahoro, C.**, Musabanganji, E., and Banamwana, L. (2011), Fertility preferences and level of family planning in Rwanda: Case study of Huye District. *JETEMS* 2 (3) :168-174 (ISSN:2141-7024). <http://jetems.scholarlinkresearch.org/articles/Fertility%20Preferences%20and%20Level%20of%20Family%20Planning%20in%20Rwanda.pdf>
- Mathai, J. A, Musabanganji, E., **Niwemahoro, C.**, Banamwana, L., Uwitonze, M., Mukamana, A. (2011), A study of institutional environment and household food security at local level in Rwanda. *Rwanda Journal*, Volume 22, series B, 2011: social sciences. <http://www.ajol.info/index.php/rj/article/view/71505>
- Yusuf B, Omigbodun O, Adedokun B, **Akinyemi J.O.**, (2011). Identifying predictors of violent behaviour among students using the conventional logistic and multilevel logistic models. *Journal of Applied Statistics* 38(5):1055-1061. <http://EconPapers.repec.org/RePEc:taf:japsta:v:38:y:2011:i:5:p:1055-1061>
- Babalola C.P, Awolaye S.A, **Akinyemi J.O.**, Kotila O.A (2011). Evaluation of prescription pattern in Osun State (Southwest) Nigeria. *Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology* 3(3): 94-98. <http://www.academicjournals.org/jphe/PDF/pdf2011/March/Babalola%20et%20al.pdf>
- Adesina O, Oladokun A., **Akinyemi J.O.**, Akingbola T, Awolude O, Adewole 1. (2011). Risk of anaemia in HIV positive pregnant women in Ibadan, South West Nigeria. *African Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences* 40 (1): 67 - 73. [http://www.afrijmed.org.ng/freefile/vol\\_40\\_1/2011\\_1\\_9.pdf](http://www.afrijmed.org.ng/freefile/vol_40_1/2011_1_9.pdf)
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CARTA is a South-South partnership with South-North collaboration jointly led by the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) in Kenya and the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) in South Africa. The Consortium consists of nine African universities, four African Research Institutes and seven northern academic institutions.

