Yale-China Association

Chia Family Foundation Health Fellowship Program 2014 Fellowship Announcement

General Introduction

Made possible by the Chia Family Foundation and the Xiangya School of Medicine and affiliated institutions, the Chia Family Health Fellowship Program seeks to improve the general health and health education of the people of Hunan through public outreach programs and by promoting the role of Chinese women in the health professions. The Fellowship gives special emphasis to health projects that are concerned with the prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases in the communities, and that focus on health issues faced by the vulnerable or overlooked populations in Hunan.

Two fellowships will be awarded for 2014. Each fellowship has two components: a semester (6 months) at Yale University followed by project implementation in Changsha. In the fall, each Fellow will have the opportunity to study and conduct research for one semester at Yale under the guidance of Yale faculty before returning to China to complete the project. At the conclusion of the semester at Yale, each Fellow will submit an interim report to Yale-China and her faculty mentor summarizing her work at Yale and submit an application to the Yale University Institutional Review Board for the proposed project activities in China.

Upon returning to China, Fellows will complete any field research necessary and conduct the implementation phase of their projects by sharing their research findings and problem-solving strategies with colleagues and carrying out educational outreach programs.

Each Chia Fellowship recipient's round trip travel to the U.S., health insurance cost for their U.S. stay, housing and utilities expenses, and a \$900 monthly living stipend in New Haven (for six months), as well as all of the project implementation funding (up to \$6,000) will be provided by the fellow's home institutions at Central South University. Other expenses related to the fellowship, such as travel for the fellows' advisors to China, advisors' time, and other program administrative costs will be funded by the Chia Family Foundation.

Program Priorities

The fellowship gives special emphasis to health projects that are concerned with the prevention and management of infectious and chronic diseases in the communities, and that focus on health issues faced by the vulnerable or overlooked populations in Hunan. Proposed projects will be judged upon their academic merits and topic, as well as applicants' likelihood to continue to work in the priority area, as listed above, beyond the completion of the Fellowship.

Fellowship Selection Criteria

Fellowship candidates will be reviewed and selected in October 2013 by a committee composed of representatives of the Yale-China Association and the Xiangya School of Medicine. Following a review of proposals submitted by the candidates, the selection committee will invite selected candidates for interviews at Xiangya in late October. The recipients of the fellowships will be announced in December 2013 or January 2014.

Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- 1. The candidate's academic and professional strength and preparedness for the Fellowship Program.
- 2. The candidate's professional motivation, training and experience.
- 3. Overall assessment of the proposed project according to the following:
 - --Quality of the research plan
 - --Feasibility of the research/project plan
 - --Relevance of the research/project plan to program priorities as stated above
- 4. The availability of an appropriate Yale faculty mentor.
- 5. The likelihood that the proposed work will continue upon return, including support from superiors.
- 6. The candidate's potential to influence health practice and policy in Hunan.
- 7. The candidate's commitment to community service and potential to continue to work in the same priority areas as outlined by the program.
- 8. The candidate's English ability. (Candidates are expected to be able to understand English academic lectures, read academic journals, and to carry on conversations about their work.)

Candidate qualifications

In accordance with the desires of the donor, only women working in the fields of public health and nursing in Hunan province are eligible to apply for the program. Proposed projects should be focused on infectious and chronic disease prevention, management, and self-care in the community. In addition, special emphasis will be given to projects that address health problems faced by the disadvantaged or overlooked populations.

Application process and time table

Application forms and instructions are available at the International Cooperation Office of the Xiangya School of Medicine (see below for contact person for Xiangya, Dr. Wu Zhigang) and online at www.yalechina.org. The selection of 2014 fellowship recipients will be made in December 2013 or January 2014, which will allow new Fellows ample time to prepare for their studies at Yale the following fall, and to make arrangements with their superiors for completing their projects when they return to China.

Applications are due at both Xiangya and Yale-China by **Monday, October 7th, 2013**. Please contact Dr. Wu Zhigang at Central South University International Cooperation Office or the Yale-China Association if you have further questions.

Dr. Wu Zhigang

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