

## **FWI Funding Statement**

Name: Andrea Baumann/Christy Gombay  
Faculty/Area: Global Health  
Project title: Global Health Research Initiative

### **Goal**

The objective of this initiative is to draw together this interdisciplinary and international group of faculty from McMaster University and colleagues from the University of Maastricht and Manipal University to participate in the first Annual Global Health Research Seminar to a) produce a first volume of collected research papers that will be published in early 2014 that emanate from the current McMaster-Maastricht-Manipal initiative; and b) develop the parameters of a medium-term research agenda in Global Health to orient collaborative interdisciplinary research programs in global health. In addition to the researchers currently involved in the program, the members of our International Advisory Board which includes representatives from the Global North and Global South have been instrumental in promoting a broad research agenda which nourishes students and faculties in a transdisciplinary, transcontinental way.

The output of the initiative would be a) an edited collection of papers building upon the GH initiative to date which would be published in a leading journal; and b) a broad-based interdisciplinary research agenda in global health that has the support of key stakeholders.

As part of the initiative, students from the Global Health program did participate in the development and evolution of the initiative and the intent is to use the edited collection or relevant parts of it, in the curriculum that the students in subsequent cohorts of the Masters of Science in Global Health will use in their courses.

### **Please summarize how the FWI funds have been spent:**

Event Costs: Research Strategy meeting held in Maastricht and Hamilton with faculty and students from Manipal University, Maastricht, and McMaster.

### **Balance remaining:**

There is no balance remaining

### **Please submit separately a maximum 2-page summary of the results of the project with particular attention to the following details:**

1. How has the project fostered collaboration and interdisciplinarity?  
This project resulted in a closer association with the Maastricht and McMaster professors as well as the students from both sites. We enlarged our concept of research as well as have examples of

concrete outcomes in terms of articles written by faculty and students from both sites. This is a process that is continuing in the development of our joint PhD program.

- a. Have other projects been initiated as a result of this project?  
Yes, there is a decision to work together on a co-tutelle agreement that will provide a joint PhD program between McMaster and Maastricht.
  - b. If it was recommended in your award letter that you connect with particular individuals/groups, have you done so and what was the result?  
The funding provided background finances for two meetings of faculty and students – one at McMaster and one at Maastricht.
  - c. Have you worked with others who have or have not been funded through the current RFP?  
No we have not.
2. How has the project exposed students to new or emerging research?  
The funding provided us the opportunity to explore potential research areas as well as enlarge topics that are student led and result in excellent theses and some formal publications involving faculty and students. The collection of global health theses from McMaster graduates can be found [here](#).
  3. How has the project offered students an experience beyond traditional borders?  
The theses and papers now explore beyond our local community and research is now being conducted beyond Canadian borders. A recent publication submission outlined research completed in one of the largest slums in India. It is very well written and student driven.
  4. How has the project challenged the confines of existing programming and advanced new paradigms of research or education?  
The program now has been able to include several sites for learning beyond Maastricht and McMaster. More importantly the research paradigm is one that underlines the importance of different perspectives as well as a multidisciplinary approach.
  5. How will the outcomes of the project be sustained or expanded?  
One of the more important outcomes was publication in respected journals. This work is ongoing with two more papers about to be submitted. The four papers that have been now accepted during the duration of the grant are listed below.
  6. Please outline any barriers or challenges that may have prevented you from achieving some of your project goals.  
The biggest barrier was the amount of funding. However, it was very beneficial because it was not the type of activity that would be funded by any granting agency and we would not have been able to conduct some very important meetings.

List of Related Publications:

Davidson, S. (In press). Examining barriers to maternal health care in Kenya using the three delay framework. *The Prognosis*.

Engel, N., Hoyweghen, I. V., & Krumeich, A. (Eds.). (2014). *Making global health care innovation work: Standardization and localization*. London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Kocsis, E., & Yu, J. (2015). Contaminated crops & cups of yogurt: How an innovative North-South partnership is addressing Aflatoxin poisoning in Kenya. *iAM*. Retrieved from <https://readymag.com/OCIC/iAMVol6/global-health/>.

Korpal, D., & Wong, A. (2015). Education and the health of the First Nations people of Canada *AlterNative: An International Journal of Indigenous Peoples*, 11(2).

Salam, R. A., MacPhail, C., Das, J. K., & Bhutta, Z. A. (2013). Effectiveness of micronutrient powders (MNP) in women and children. *BMC Public Health*, 13(Suppl 3), S22.