



MSc and PhD Positions Available

MSc and PhD positions are open in the Bioinorganic Chemistry Research Group at Stellenbosch University (SU). Bursaries to the value of ZAR 90,000 (MSc) and ZAR 120,000 (PhD) per annum are available.

The Bioinorganic Chemistry Research Group at SU is interested in infectious diseases, in particular malaria. We are engaged in research to probe the mechanisms of action of different classes of antimalarial drugs. Importantly, our objective is to gain understanding that will facilitate rational design of new antimalarial drugs to target *Plasmodium falciparum*. In particular, we apply a range of biophysical methods to investigate key interactions between antimalarial compounds and their proposed target, ferriprotoporphyrin IX (Fe(III)PPIX). This includes spectroscopic and kinetic studies, as well as molecular modelling. Organic synthesis of lead compounds is carried out in collaboration.

The research projects to be carried out form part of an international collaboration between SU, the University of Cape Town (South Africa), and Vanderbilt University (USA) that is funded by the National Institutes of Health (USA).

Application process

Both South African and international applicants are welcomed. The minimum requirements are:
MSc applicants: A BSc(Honours) or equivalent (SAQA level 8) degree in Chemistry obtained within the last five years. *Please note that an undergraduate degree awarded with honours (i.e. distinction) is not sufficient.*

PhD applicants: A MSc degree in Chemistry obtained within the last five years.

Please send your complete CV, academic transcript and reference details to Dr Katherine de Villiers (kdev@sun.ac.za) by **Friday 30 September 2016**. Ideally, the projects will start in January 2017.

For further information, please see http://academic.sun.ac.za/chemistry/academic_kdev.asp
