



**FOSTERING EXCELLENCE IN
AFRICAN SCHOLARSHIP**



What is PANGeA?

The Partnership of Africa's Next Generation of Academics is a collaborative network of leading African universities developing research capacity and confidence in bringing African expertise to Africa's challenges

The network aims to:

- Strengthen scholarship and research exclusively in the arts, humanities and social sciences
- Develop research capacity on site
- Offer supervision for and participate in collaborative world class PhD programmes and advanced research programmes focused on Africa
- Offer joint doctoral degree programmes



PANGeA members

Founding universities:

- University of Botswana
- University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)
- Makerere University (Uganda)
- University of Malawi
- University of Nairobi (Kenya)
- Stellenbosch University (South Africa)

New partner universities:

- University of Ghana
- University of Yaoundé I (Cameroon)



PANGeA principles

Reason for partnership formation:

Different characteristics promote mutual benefits

Partnership principles:

- Investment – to create stakeholder interest
- Reciprocity – give and take, promote sharing
- Equity – to reduce power differences
- Trust – to build confidence



History of PANGeA

- **November 2006:** First meeting of deans of faculties of arts, humanities and social sciences in Stellenbosch
- **March 2009:** Discussions resumed in Uganda and resulted in the signing of a Letter of Intent
- **December 2009:** Drafted multilateral memorandum of understanding in Tanzania
- **January 2010:** First cohort of doctoral students in PANGeA scholarship programme
- **November 2010:** MMoU signed by all partners in Stellenbosch
- **December 2012/March 2013:** First cohort of doctoral graduates
- **December 2013/March 2014:** Second cohort of doctoral graduates
- **December 2014/March 2015:** Third cohort of doctoral graduates
- **December 2015/March 2016:** Fourth cohort of doctoral graduates
- **September 2016:** Launch of PANGeA-Ed and first series of workshops
- **December 2016/March 2017:** Fifth cohort of doctoral graduates
- **May 2017:** Second series of PANGeA-Ed workshops (Tanzania)
- **June 2017:** First cohort of early career fellows



PANGeA governance

- PANGeA is governed by the PANGeA Board consisting of one representative (Principal/Dean: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) from each partner institution
- PANGeA Board members meet annually to review the progress of PANGeA activities and approve the activities for the year ahead. The annual PANGeA Board meeting also forms part of this meeting.
- The PANGeA Board appoints a Chair from amongst the Board members to serve a two-year term. The current Chair is Prof Edward Kirumira (Makerere University)
- The Chair of PANGeA is also assisted by the PANGeA secretariat (Dr Cindy Steenekamp), who is based at Stellenbosch University



PANGeA activities

1. Doctoral scholarship programme:
Launched in 2010
2. Training and skills development
programme: Launched in 2016
3. Early career fellowship programme:
Launched on 8 June 2017

1. Doctoral programme

- Offer **partially structured PhD programmes** in the arts, humanities and social sciences
- In **multi-disciplinary research themes** addressing problems relevant to Africa's development
- To scholars on **three-year, full-time, residential scholarships**
- Providing **broad-based research and scholarship** support through workshops, seminars, and short courses
- Through **partnerships with leading African universities** to enhance academic collaboration and mobility (PANGeA)



Enrolment figures

PANGeA partner	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
University of Botswana	1	1						2
University of Dar es Salaam	2	1	2	1	3	5	5	19
University of Ghana			3	3			1	7
Makerere University	4	3	4	3	2	1	1	18
University of Malawi	2	2	1	1	3	1	1	11
University of Nairobi	1	1		1	2	1	1	7
Stellenbosch University	2		2	1	2			7
University of Yaoundé I							1	1
TOTAL	12	8	12	10	12	8	10	72



PANGeA PhD graduates

PANGeA partner	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Total
University of Botswana		1	1			2
University of Dar es Salaam	1	2	1	1	3	8
University of Ghana			2	3	1	6
Makerere University	4	2	3	2	2	13
University of Malawi	1	2	2	1	3	9
University of Nairobi	1	1		1	2	5
Stellenbosch University	1	1	2		2	6
University of Yaoundé I						
TOTAL	8	9	11	8	13	49

Throughput rate

Years to degree (completion)	Number	%
Two years	2	4
Three years	38	78
Four years	8	16
Five years	1	2
TOTAL	49	100

Success factors

1. Comprehensive support system to enhance doctoral studies: academic; administrative; financial; and physical
2. Innovative study models: cohort model
3. Diversity and quality of students that are equipped to complete their studies within three years
4. Dedicated supervisors who are committed to supervising full-time, residential PhDs
5. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation of progress three times per annum

First semester programme for new cohort:

- Embarking on a research degree
- Understanding social research
- Principles in research design
- (Critical) Discourse analysis
- Scientific writing skills for PhD
- Creating your dissertation
- Guidelines for research proposals
- Avoiding plagiarism
- Guidelines for ethical clearance
- Guidelines for submission and examination

First semester programme for new cohort:

- *Administrative support:* orientation programme; medical aid seminar
- *Library and resource support:* Introduction to the Library; Finding books and articles using SUNsearch; Improving your literature search strategy; Google and Google Scholar; Set alerts for your research topic; and Research Africa demonstration
- *Technical support:* IT seminar (Email, internet, and network registration); Mendeley for beginners; On-track planner demonstration; MS Word for large documents



Looking forward

Next call for applications for PANGeA
doctoral scholarships = August 2017

Eligibility criteria

1. Applicants must have **completed a Masters degree**. As a rule a **minimum average of 65%** should have been obtained in their previous qualifying degree.
2. Applicants must be **citizens of an African country, which includes South Africa**. Successful foreign students must be in possession of a valid study permit to register at Stellenbosch University at the commencement of the programme.
3. Applicants must be **available, and have approved study leave, for full-time study over a period of three years in Stellenbosch** starting mid-January of the first year of the award.
4. Unless on sabbatical or leave approved for the purposes of taking up this full-time scholarship, the scholarship holder **may not be involved in any form of salaried employment during the tenure of the scholarship** without permission of the Graduate School.
5. Applicants must have an **adequate command of spoken and written English**, as the correspondence, courses, seminars and other activities of the Graduate School will be transacted in English.

Selection criteria

Scholarships are awarded to eligible candidates taking the following into account:

- High academic merit and the intellectual capacity to study successfully at the doctoral level
- Strong personal motivation to complete the programme
- The extent to which the proposed topic of study fits into the research programme of the Faculty
- Availability of suitable supervisors for the proposed topic of study
- Candidates who are below the age of 40. Although applicants over 40 may be considered, preference will be given to younger scholars

Preference criteria

On a collective level:

- Gender equity
- Preference will be given to applicants from African countries south of the Sahara to enhance compatibility of university and linguistic backgrounds
- Among the South African component, BCI applicants will be given preference, provided that they meet all the other requirements
- Among the non-South African component, applicants whose nominations are supported by officials of the PANGeA institutions will be given preference, provided that they meet all the other requirements



How to apply?

Applications open early August each year

- Online application only available once call has opened
- Interested applicants can email and request to be added to the mailing list to receive notification once call has opened
- Applications close at the end of August

Email: graduateschool@sun.ac.za

Visit our website:

<http://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/arts/graduate-school/Pages/Prospective.aspx>

Scholarship value

- The maximum value of the scholarship, commencing in 2017, is **R420000** payable over three years (approximately US\$27500)
- The scholarship award is enough to cover the university fees (tuition and international registration fee) and living expenses for one person only
- The Graduate School does not provide funding for the following:
 - Return flights
 - Relocation costs, including repatriation fees
 - Fieldwork and/or data collection

Challenges

- FUNDING!!
- Expectations (completion and status)
- Co-supervision
- Co-publication
- Research costs (fieldwork and data collection)
- Conference attendance



2. PANGeA-Ed

AIM: To develop research capacity through broad-based research and scholarship support on PANGeA campuses

Also involves conscious efforts to develop structured opportunities for academic interaction of PANGeA staff in order to stimulate research collaboration and joint research projects amongst PANGeA partners



How does it work?

- Each PANGeA partner will have at least one opportunity to host a PANGeA-Ed training school
- A selection of short courses will be presented on and rotated between partner campuses, based on the needs of each institution
- The courses will take place over three consecutive days (usually Tuesdays through Thursdays) by means of a training workshop facilitated by an expert in the field
- Presenter(s) for these courses will be drawn primarily from the research expertise within the PANGeA network; however, local and/or international experts from outside the network may also be recruited for specific courses, where necessary

How does it work?

Responsibilities of the PANGeA secretariat:

1. Liaise with each partner regarding the selection of courses to be offered as well as suitable dates for the PANGeA-Ed training school;
2. Recruit suitable and experienced presenters;
3. Recruitment, selection and registration of participants for each short course
 - Participants should ideally be academic staff from within the host's school/faculty (prioritised)
 - Participants can also be any registered PhD candidates within the host's school/faculty
4. Remunerate course presenters;
5. Arrange return flights and accommodation (4 nights) for non-local presenters; and
6. Circulate materials (course outline and readings)

How does it work?

Responsibilities of the host institution:

1. Conduct a survey of research “needs” or skills shortages within school/faculty and identify a maximum of 5 short courses to be offered;
2. Appoint a representative to co-ordinate the logistics with the Secretariat;
3. Provide suitable venues and equipment (data projector, flip board etc.) for each short course;
4. Advertise the workshops and short courses; and
5. Airport transfers for the course presenters, where necessary

Types of training

- Understanding social research
- Embarking on a research degree
- Principles of research design
- Guidelines for research proposals
- Integrity and ethics in research
- Quantitative data analysis
- Qualitative data analysis
- Mixed methods research
- Social surveys and sampling
- Ethnographic research
- (Critical) discourse analysis
- Doctoral supervision
- Scientific writing skills
- Publication of peer-reviewed and accredited journal articles



PANGeA-Ed series

Previous host institutions:

- PANGeA-Ed was launched at Makerere University during the week of 26 – 30 September
- First series of workshops and short courses took place at Makerere University (September 2016)
- Second series of workshops and short courses took place at the University of Dar es Salaam (May 2017)

3. Early career fellowships

- Academics globally are increasingly expected to produce more research outputs, while their administrative responsibilities are also on the rise.
- The challenge, however, is that academics rarely have the opportunity to focus solely on research given their teaching schedules and the vast majority of academic staff have little or no administrative and managerial training.

AIM: To invest in promising talent by providing them with an opportunity to enhance their research profile and attend specialized workshops that will equip them with the necessary skills in University administration to further their careers

How does it work?

- A maximum of 12 PANGeA early career fellows will be selected each year for four years (2017-2020)
- Academic staff members within the PANGeA network who have completed a PhD within the last five years will be eligible
- Early career fellows will spend a maximum of two months (June and July) at Stellenbosch University, in cooperation with the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS)
- Early career fellow will participate in intensive workshops focused on academic support and University administration; while also providing the early career fellows the space and time to pursue their research interests and produce a publication

How does it work?

Responsibilities of the PANGeA secretariat:

1. Advertising the early career fellowships across the network;
2. Co-ordinating the recruitment and selection of suitable fellows with PANGeA partners;
3. Arranging return flights, accommodation, and monthly stipend for early career fellows;
4. Co-ordinating the academic programme (workshops and research opportunity) of the early careers fellows;
5. Providing early career fellows with a suitable space to conduct their research; and
6. Facilitate mentorship (academic and social interaction) with senior STIAS fellows

How does it work?

Responsibilities of the home institution:

1. Identify and recruit the top available talent within your faculty/school to be awarded early career fellowships
2. Nominate and provide a letter of endorsement/support for top candidates within your school/faculty
3. Provide, where necessary, study leave for early career fellows (June and July of each year)

Types of training

- Postgraduate supervision
- Best practices in teaching for higher education
- How to write and publish an academic article
- Financial management and planning
- Human resources and conflict resolution
- Science and the media
- Grant/funding proposal writing
- Leadership in civil society
- Academic citizenship
- Gender mainstreaming and capacity building

Early Career Launch

- The PANGeA early career fellowship programme was launched at Stellenbosch University (STIAS) on 8 June 2017
- First cohort of PANGeA Early Career Fellows commenced their 8 week residency in June 2017

