



[View this email in your browser](#)

Cambridge Africa Day - 6th July 2022

Cambridge-Africa Day celebrations took place on the 6th July at Emmanuel College. Over 100 people attended in person, with dozens more joining online. We are grateful to all the speakers, those who were able to come in person, especially our two plenary speakers: Professor Samba Sow who travelled from Mali and Professor Nelson Sewankambo from Uganda. Speakers who were not able to attend recorded high quality videos ahead of the meeting, ensuring that everything flowed smoothly.

We are also grateful to The African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID), The West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) and The Center for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (CEMA) who show-cased the work going on in their institutions through videos.

All the presentations and videos have been uploaded on the Cambridge-Africa Youtube channel and can be viewed on the website:-

[Presentations from Cambridge-Africa Day 6th July 2022](#)

Below are a few highlights from the conference.



When Prof Eugene Ndabaga began his talk at the Cambridge-Africa Day, most of the audience stared blankly at him. You see, Prof Ndabaga introduced his talk in Kinyarwanda, with Prof Ricardo Sabates Aysa interpreting what he said. It was their fantastic way of demonstrating how difficult it is for children to learn in a language that is not their mother tongue. Rwandan primary school children have had to cope with changes in the language of instruction in schools from French, to Kinyarwanda to English. Read more about Prof Ndabaga's research here:-

[Prof Eugene Ndabaga on language transition in Rwandan schools](#)

The 2022 Dr Amit Bhasin Prize, that honors outstanding African scholars, was won by Valentina Ndolo.



Valentina Ndolo is a final year PhD student on a Gates scholarship in the department of Veterinary Medicine

Dr Amit Bhasin was Cambridge-Africa Programme Manager 2019-2020, until his untimely death. His friends and colleagues raised funds for a prize to be awarded to outstanding African research students at Cambridge, to remember him and celebrate his dedication to supporting African researchers. A prize of £500 is awarded to the recipients.

[Read about the winner of Amit Bhasin Prize 2022 - Valentina Ndolo](#)

Alborada Research Fund - 2022

The next round of the Cambridge-Africa Alborada Research Fund opened for applications on the 6th June and closed on 3rd September

We received about 50 applications in total. The proposals will be reviewed by the end of September and all applicants will be contacted in October 2022.

CELEBRATING THRIVE

The Training Health Researchers for Vocational Excellence (THRIVE) program held its Annual Conference at the Serena Beach Resort, Mombasa, Kenya from the 27th August to 1st September 2022. Postgraduate (PhD and Masters) and post-doctoral career development award fellows from THRIVE institutions showcased their research and had opportunity to network with other researchers.



This was also the opportunity for the official closeout of the DELTAS-1 grant which was funded by the DELTAS Africa program through the Science for Africa Foundation.

Racheal Ninsiima, Communications Officer, THRIVE, wrote a comprehensive blog about the conference and this can be read here:-

[THRIVE closes out Deltas-1 grant](#)

As part of the celebration, we would like to highlight the work of one of the THRIVE PhD scholar, Prof Arthur Kwizera.



He talks about the impact that the THRIVE program had on his career and work life here...

[Prof Kwizera's journey to critical care innovation](#)

Cambridge-Africa Partnership for Research Excellence (CAPREx) Fellows

Cambridge-Africa Partnership for Research Excellence (CAPREx) was a partnership between the University of Cambridge, Makerere University, Uganda and the University of Ghana, between 2012-2019, extended to December 2021. With the winding down of the program, we have compiled a few stories of our CAPREx alumni.

Dr William Tayeabwa



[Dr William Tayeabwa explains the impact of CAPREx on his career](#)

Medical elective students

Through a partnership between the University of Cambridge and the Makerere University College of Health Sciences, two medical students are selected, through a competitive process, to attend a 10-week medical elective in oncology and haematology at the university of Cambridge.

In June/July 2022, Ferguson Natukunda and Abraham Ddungu left Uganda to travel abroad for the first time to undertake this training. They share their experiences through these blogs.



[Abraham writes about his life-changing experience in Cambridge](#)



[Ferguson describes his medical elective in Cambridge](#)

Congratulations to Professor Caroline Trotter



As of October 2022, the academic director of Cambridge-Africa is officially Professor Caroline Trotter!

Join us in congratulating Caroline!

