

AAU Staff Exchange Programme

Promoting Staff Mobility in Africa

Introduction

The AAU is pleased to announce the 2013/2014 edition of its Staff Exchange Programme which aims at facilitating academic mobility and encouraging networking among [AAU member institutions](#), as well as contributing to improvements in the quality of training and research in African higher education institutions.

Under the Staff Exchange Programme academic staff from universities in Africa, or African academics in the Diaspora, are sponsored to undertake visits to universities in Africa to offer services such as teaching, graduate theses supervision, serving as external examiners or engaging in joint research.

Advantages

Staff Exchange missions allow academic staff to get acquainted with different work environments, mentor young scholars or researchers and meet their colleagues involved in the same research areas and in the long term help build cooperation between sending and hosting institutions.

The Visit

Duration: 4 – 12 weeks

The visit to the host institution under the AAU Staff Exchange Programme involves participation of the Staff Exchange Fellow in any of the following:

- teaching assignment;
- research collaboration;
- graduate supervision; or
- external examination.

For research collaboration, Exchange Fellows are expected to research on a theme connected to one of the following areas:

1. The role of higher education in promoting sustainable development in Africa;
2. Promoting university-industry linkages for graduate employability;
3. Agriculture, Food Security and related disciplines;
4. Economics and related disciplines, especially entrepreneurship in Africa;
5. Engineering and information technology; and
6. Education, Gender and HIV/AIDS.

Please note that except in unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, an exchange mission cannot be postponed to the following year. For this edition of the Programme, all exchange missions have to be undertaken by end December 2014.

AAU Financial Support

The AAU will support up to six staff exchange missions and two African academics from the Diaspora will be sponsored on sabbatical leave for the 2013/2014 year.

Financial support for exchange fellows includes the following:

- US\$2,500 to cover economy class air ticket or the equivalent;
- US\$3,500 honorarium for a teaching or research mission
- US\$2,000 honorarium for an external examiner
- US\$1,000 to cover incidental expenses (paid as soon as the dates of the mission are agreed between the Exchange Fellow and the receiving institution)

African academics from the Diaspora who will spend part of their sabbatical leave in Africa for purposes of teaching or graduate supervision will receive a maximum of US\$5,000.

Home/Host Institution Obligations

The home institution of the visiting professor/lecturer shall maintain the payment of his/her salary and benefits for the duration of his/her absence from the institution for the purpose of the exchange mission.

The requesting institution shall cater for the local expenses of the visiting professor/lecturer including lodging, board, local transportation, and medical care during his/her stay at the institution.

Who Can Apply?

[AAU member institutions](#) in good standing on the payment of subscriptions are invited to request in writing, the services of a visiting professor/lecturer by completing the necessary forms below. To know more about the application procedures, selection criteria and other details please refer to the guidelines and the list of past beneficiaries.

- [Application Form](#)
- [Application Guidelines](#)

How to Apply

Prospective Exchange Fellows must be nominated by an AAU member institution that needs their services. The Head of the *Requesting Institution* shall ask for the services of a visiting professor/lecturer in writing. The application must also include the following:

- a. Information on the prospective Exchange Fellow's teaching/examiner experience (relevant aspects of Curriculum vitae); and publications.
- b. A duly completed application form.

Women are especially encouraged to participate in the Programme. Heads of institutions are therefore requested to give priority to the nomination of women.