Hej!

Most welcome to the elective course *Surgery, obstetrics and anesthesia in low- and middle-income countries*. There was tremendous interest in this course, and we were able to accept 20 students from Lund University and Harvard Medical School. The course will be held from December 17 to January 18. The 1<sup>st</sup> week involves lectures in Sweden, the 2<sup>nd</sup> week is devoted to individual studies over Christmas-time and new-year, the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> weeks combine practical clinical placements in Zimbabwe with dedication to written and oral presentations of a capstone project.

**Confirm your course participation as soon as possible**

You will need to confirm your participation by booking and paying for your flight to Harare, and then uploading the booking confirmation on the course platform “Moodle” along with a scanned copy of your passport, a passport sized photo, contact details for yourself and two emergency contacts, as well as two application forms for our hosts in Zim. You will find the Moodle page at https://moodle.med.lu.se/course/view.php?id=2022. You are free to choose your own itinerary as long as the travel dates are congruent with the course dates detailed below. Please see below also regarding the reimbursement process. We also invite you to indicate on Moodle if you have any particular interest or wishes when it comes to the clinical rotations. We will try to accommodate your wishes to the best of our abilities, but obviously reserve the right to decide by chance if the distribution of preferences does not match the clinical placements available.

**Course dates**

We will have lectures in Lund between 9am and 4.30pm every weekday from Monday Dec 17 to Friday Dec 21. You may then choose your own departure date for Zimbabwe as long as you arrive in time for a compulsory evening seminar in Harare at 7pm on Wednesday Jan 3 at the hotel. In Harare, there will be daily clinical rotations during Jan 4-5, Jan 7-12, and Jan 14 (yes, they do work on Saturdays…), combined with evening seminars every weekday. On Monday Jan 14 we may instead visit a smaller hospital outside Harare, however this is not yet confirmed. Oral project presentations are scheduled for Jan 15 in the morning, and written project assignments are due before Jan 17. From lunch Jan 15<sup>th</sup> there will be no scheduled teaching, and you may return home as you wish.

**Examination**

Passing grade is contingent on active participation in all the theoretical and practical activities in Sweden and Zimbabwe, completion of daily evaluations on Moodle during the first week of class, and passed oral and written assignments. The course project concept will be further introduced during first days of class.

**Required reading**

Teaching will be based on scientific publications and official documents, and we do not expect you to buy any textbooks. One day before a lecture, we will typically post required reading material and/or suggested reading material on Moodle.

**Teaching and examinations are in English**

Both teaching and examination will be in English, as the course involves students and teachers from for example Sweden, USA, Zimbabwe, and the UK.
Passport and visa

On our Moodle page, you will find some general travel information from the Swedish embassy in Harare. U.S. and Swedish citizens are currently able to apply for Zimbabwean visa at the airport. Expiration date of your passport must not exceed six months after return. The cost is about USD 30 (remember to bring cash). U.S. citizens should not need a Visa to visit the Schengen area (including Sweden) for up to 90 days.

Immunization

Make sure to check your immunization status, particularly diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, and polio. Hepatitis A and B vaccination is recommended, and so is the cholera vaccine. Proof of yellow fever vaccination is only required if you have recently visited a country with endemic yellow fever. Malaria prophylaxis is usually not needed in Harare, but it is recommended when traveling to other parts of the country. HIV is common in Zimbabwe and you should all bring protective eyewear to wear in the operating room or during deliveries. We will bring post-exposure ARV.

Insurance

Swedish and U.S. students are fully insured through Lund University (Kammarkollegiet). The insurance is valid during the entire course, but not for travels outside Zimbabwe. On Moodle you will find “Terms and conditions Student UT insurance”, “Terms and conditions Student IN insurance”, “Claim Application Form”, as well as some general “Advice for studying abroad”.

Health concerns

Please notify the course administration if you have any chronic conditions that we should be aware of.

Travel expenses

Swedish students will receive a travel grant of 4,000 SEK after uploading on Moodle a signed travel reimbursement form, booking receipt, and a transaction printout from your bank (deadline on the last day of course). Lund University collaborates with Nordea, and in case you use another bank you are required to send Nordea a form for disbursement of funds, which also will be available on Moodle. Harvard students will be reimbursed for the full flight costs. Lund University will provide standard accommodation and breakfast in Harare on Jan 3-15 at Russel Suites on Baines Avenue. If you would like to book additional nights before or after these dates you may directly contact Sue or Stanley at sueworld@icloud.com and stanleymutizira@russellhotels.com.

More information and first day of class

We will provide more practical information and give you the opportunity to ask questions when we meet in Lund at 9am on December 17 at the Practicum facilities in Lund (Barngatan 2B). Please do not hesitate to contact us any time if you have any questions, concerns or comments.

On behalf of the whole international faculty,

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