UNU-GEST invites nominations for Spring Term 2019

School of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University and UNU-GEST invite masters students to apply for UNU-GEST fellowship to attend the 2019 Post-Graduate Diploma Programme in International Gender Studies at the University of Iceland. The 2019 programme will run from the 8th of January until the 24th of May 2019 in Reykjavík, Iceland.

UNU-GEST has so far welcomed 108 fellows from 17 different countries to its programme, including 22 fellows from Uganda. Selection of the fellows is based on the following criteria. The candidate must:

- Be enrolled in a Masters programme at Makerere University
- Have experience related to the themes of the UNU-GEST Programme
- Be a young professional (not above 35 years of age)
- Be highly proficient in spoken and written English

Interested students are invited to submit their applications for fellowship to the Dean of School of Women and Gender Studies, Dr. Sarah SSali at ssaline2@gmail.com, no later than 5 May, 2018. Application forms are available at the UNU-GEST website. Following the interviews with qualified candidates final selection will be conducted by UNU-GEST.

In addition to the academic programme, fellowships cover travel expenses, campus housing, as well as visa and per-diem costs during the study period. By the end of the programme, students will be awarded a post-graduate diploma in international gender studies.

The study programme (30 ECTS) consists of six modules:
Examples of final assignments by alumni fellows

Socio-economic Empowerment of Women Through Agroforestry in Lira and Pader districts, Uganda (Hellen Nansikombi, 2014)
The project proposal aims to address the gender gap in agroforestry programs in order to enhance women’s participation. Increased dependence on natural resources as a primary source of livelihood has led to environmental degradation in Uganda, which adversely affects food security, income and livelihoods of local communities. Provision of credit to women, community mobilization, and awareness raising is proposed to promote full participation of both men and women in agroforestry.

Strengthening GBV Preparedness and Prevention in Refugee Camps, Palestine (Toni Bero, 2015)
A multi-sectoral approach is taken to tackle gender-based violence (GBV) within refugee populations, by strengthening GBV preparedness and prevention in emergency situations. The project applies a results-based framework to strengthen organizational capacity and participation of target communities and beneficiaries.

Gendered Value Chain Analysis of Mangoes in Malawi (Nthamyo Thandie Mbye, 2016)
The project proposal lays the foundation for future investment and interventions in the mango sub-sector and offers a gendered analysis of the mango value chain in Malawi. A variety of gender-related issues are identified at each stage of the mango value chain, and strategies to be taken into consideration when improving and upgrading a mango value chain.

Studying in Iceland
The UNU-GEST programme is located at the heart of the University of Iceland campus. The fellows get access to modern study facilities, working spaces and the University Library. In addition, fellows are provided with a laptop for personal use during their study period, and academic reading material is made available through the University’s intranet. Accommodation is offered on campus and includes private rooms with shared kitchen and bathroom. Programme includes a number of field visits to various organisations of interest, as well as longer field trips. Study period lasts from January to May, which means that fellows come to Iceland during the coldest time of the year when the day is the shortest, and leave Iceland when summer is arriving.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is the Programme for me?
Yes, if you are a young professional with a high command of English and an undergraduate degree, then you fulfil the requirements for the Programme. However, you also need to be passionate about gender equality and eager to become a leader for change, and willing to positively contribute to a dynamic group in an enriching learning environment. Your family and work circumstances need to allow for you staying abroad from January through May 2019.

Who covers the costs?
The funding of the diploma programme is based on UNU-GEST scholarships and Erasmus+ mobility grants. The UNU-GEST scholarships cover housing on campus, educational facilities, learning material and the academic programme tuition. Erasmus + scholarship programme covers travel costs for fellows and per-diem during the five month period (800 EUR per month). Grantees will be responsible for paying the costs of residence permit and insurance for the duration of their stay in Iceland.

How do I apply?
Candidates submit an application to the Dean of School of Women and Gender Studies at Makerere University. Those candidates selected by the Makerere University will be invited to an interview with UNU-GEST admission team, who will make the final selection. Selection is expected to be finalised by mid July 2018.

How do I apply my learning in the future?
Candidates come from an array of different sectors each year, which adds to the diversity and dynamics of group work. The focus is very practical and you will acquire diverse skills applicable in different settings, such as project management, public speaking, academic writing, monitoring and evaluation, project proposal writing, innovation, leadership and analytical skills. You will learn methods and gain practical tools to address gender inequality in different contexts. Further, you will understand gender dynamics in different settings and have more in-depth knowledge of issues such as gender-based violence, education, environment, gender-responsive budgeting, security and health.