What is the Research Training Collaborative?
The Uganda RTC is a program for students in the University of Minnesota’s Academic Health Center and Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda to gain hands-on experience in global health research. Research projects are carried out by a study team made up of two students (one each from UMN and MU) and guided by two faculty mentors (one each from UMN and MU). Students propose small-scale research projects to be carried out with their student collaborator from the partner country over the course of about one year.

How long will I be involved?
The RTC takes place over 3 stages and student teams should set a goal of completion in 12-18 months. If projects are not feasible within this timeline, consult a mentor for ways to scale them back.

- Stage 1: Student Research Preparation (3-6 months)
- Stage 2: Study Implementation (6-12 weeks)
- Stage 3: Data Analysis and Dissemination (3-6 months)

Sample Timeline for 2016-17:
- Initial Application preparation - Nov 20 to Dec 9
- Screening and Matching – Dec 12 to Dec 19
- Research Plan Development – Dec 19 to Jan 17
- Accepted teams invited to begin Stage 1 – late January
- Stage 1 – February to May
- Stage 2 – June and July
- Stage 3 – August to December

Who is an eligible student?
University of Minnesota Students: Any graduate student in the Academic Health Center (medicine, public health, veterinary medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry). Other
post-baccalaureate learners, including medical residents, may apply to the program. University of Minnesota undergraduates are not eligible at this time.

Makerere University Students: Any student in the health sciences (medicine, public health, veterinary medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry). COVAb recommends graduate students apply; the Medical School recommends advanced medical students apply (4th-5th year). MMed students may also be eligible with approval from their mentors. Pharmacy students are also eligible (no graduate program available). Other Makerere students should consult with a mentor to determine their eligibility.

The project requires a commitment from all students to carry out the project to completion with the understanding that they will be expected to write a manuscript to submit for publication as a final product.

Who is an eligible mentor?
Approved faculty mentors are listed on our website. Each student will identify a mentor from their own institution prior to Initial Application. Students are encouraged to contact potential mentors early in the process to discuss their goals and research ideas.

How are teams formed and who will be on my team?
Faculty mentors and staff review the Initial Application materials to determine if there is a good “match” for student teams and mentors. If there isn’t a clear match for a student, staff and faculty leadership at the partner site will try to identify and recruit additional students. Not every student is guaranteed to have a match.

Teams will be comprised of four people: a student and a mentor from Makerere University and a student and mentor from the University of Minnesota.

How do students identify a research site?
Student teams should discuss early on with their mentors whether or not they have an established research site where the students will be able to work - this may include access to clinics or hospital records, community locations, or laboratories. Students who will not be working at an established research site will need the endorsement of both mentors and a department or local institution that is willing to host them. Note that all URTC students are welcome and encouraged to use the UMN AHC hub space in Kampala as necessary.

Are all teams invited to begin Stage 1?
Students matched with proposed international research partners are asked to work together to develop a team plan including a research question, preliminary ideas or strategies for how to answer the question, and a literature review to identify the gap in existing research. These plans are reviewed and scored, and successful student teams are invited to begin stage 1 of the Uganda Research Training Collaborative. Not all teams that are formed are expected to reach Stage 1.

**Do students receive any support from the program?**
Student teams who successfully complete the Stage 1 preparations are eligible for travel funding and a small amount of research money for expenses and fees. Budgeting guidance will be provided to student teams during Stage 1 with the support and guidance of CGHSR staff and mentor approval. Student teams who successfully complete Stages 2 and 3 are eligible for funding to cover publication fees.

**Do mentors receive any support from the program?**
Makerere University mentors receive an honorarium for their role in advising the student team.

**How many student teams will there be?**
In the 2016-2017 pilot program, we anticipate 4 student teams comprised of 8 students total. There may be more than 4 student teams enrolled in Stage 1. However, up to 4 student teams will receive funding to support implementation in Stage 2.

**Expected Outcomes**
Student participants will be expected to submit a manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal for publication. Publication expenses are eligible to be covered in the program costs.