



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE AND HYGIENE

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Advancing global health since 1903

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## **2013 Benjamin H. Kean Travel Fellows in Tropical Medicine Announced**

Today, the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) announced the 2013 recipients of the Benjamin H. Kean Travel Fellowship in Tropical Medicine. Through a highly competitive process, 20 Fellows from 12 medical schools were selected.

The unique Fellowship is the only medical student award dedicated to nurturing a career path for physician-scientists in tropical medicine. It is awarded annually to full-time medical students at accredited medical schools in North America. Fellows receive airfare and up to \$1,000 in living expenses for a clinical training or research project that takes place in an area where tropical diseases are endemic.

“This premier award is both honorific and substantive. It makes overseas training experiences for students interested in tropical disease possible, and works to build the ranks of physician-scientists focused on diseases in low-income countries,” said Kean Fellowship Committee Chair, Chandy John, MD, MS, University of Minnesota. “The future of tropical medicine and global health is in great hands with these dynamic Fellows who are committed to improving the lives of those suffering from diseases like malaria, dengue or cholera. They inspire me every day.”

“The research projects of the Fellows also expands their cultural and international understanding, and expand their scientific network, which will serve them for the rest of their professional life - ultimately leading them to a fulfilling career that improves the lives of the millions of individuals suffering needlessly from tropical disease,” said ASTMH President David H. Walker, MD, University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

The Fellowship is named to honor Benjamin H. Kean, MD, (1912-1993), an internationally acclaimed tropical medicine expert and personal mentor to many of today’s world-renowned tropical medicine experts who were inspired by him as his students in medical school. Kean is also credited with discovering the causes of several diseases, including turista or travelers’ diarrhea.

Kean was a teacher, researcher and practitioner who was committed to the idea that early, hands-on experience in the developing world is the best way to stimulate a career in tropical medicine, and he was instrumental in helping medical students obtain these experiences.

The complete list of the 2013 Benjamin H. Kean Travel Fellows in Tropical Medicine is available on the Ben Kean Travel Fellowship website. The next call for applications will be available on the ASTMH website in January 2014.

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*ASTMH, founded in 1903, is a worldwide organization of scientists, clinicians and program professionals whose mission is to promote global health through the prevention and control of infectious and other diseases that disproportionately afflict the global poor. Research, health care and education are the central activities of ASTMH members, whose work bridges basic laboratory research to international field work and clinics to countrywide programs.*