



DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology

CTHB

Bursary Opportunity

Trees form a hugely important and integral part of the lives of all South Africans. Yet it is seldom recognized that they are seriously threatened by pests, diseases and a range of genetic and environmental factors. The internationally recognised DST/NRF Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology (CTHB) focuses on the general health of southern African native trees. Research based on the most modern technologies is used to elevate our knowledge of health of trees as noticeable as Baobab, Kiaat and Marula and as inconspicuous as the common Sweet Thorn. CTHB students and researchers further have the opportunity to work in fascinating environments and in an unusually wide range of disciplines including Plant Pathology, Ecology, Microbiology, Entomology, Genetics, Botany, Bioinformatics and Chemistry.

The overall vision of the CTHB is to improve the quality of life of all South Africans, while promoting education in modern Biological Sciences. In support of this vision, the CTHB is offering financial support (bursaries and project running funds) to students from previously disadvantaged South African communities who are pursuing or intend to pursue MSc or PhD studies at any university in South Africa, and to academics who are/will be supervising these students. Prospective students must be close to completing (or have completed) their BSc (Hons) or MSc degrees and expect to achieve a mark of 60% or higher for acceptance into postgraduate degree programmes. Prospective students would be expected to begin their studies early in 2012.

All completed funding application forms should be accompanied by the following documentation: full CV of the student with certified copy of academic record and ID document, two letters of reference, statement of acceptance by the main project supervisor, provisional letter of acceptance from the Department in which the student is/will be registered and a two-page outline of the project to be undertaken, countersigned by the prospective supervisor.

For more information regarding available funding and the application process, contact Jenny Hale
(Jenny.hale@fabi.up.ac.za; phone 012 420 3855)

To find out more about the CTHB, visit <http://www.fabinet.up.ac.za/cthb>

