



MSc position in the Applied Microbial and Health Biotechnology Institute (AMHBI), Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT)

Applications are invited from suitably qualified South African BSc Hons graduates for a MSc position in the 2020 academic year, under the supervision of Dr Mariska Lilly (AMHBI, CPUT).

Requirements

- Black female student to register at CPUT
- BSc Hons Degree in any relevant life sciences discipline (Immunology, Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Infectious Diseases, and Genetics).
- Skills in immunology, molecular and cell biology, flow cytometry, cell-culturing and BSL2-level practices will be advantageous.

Fellowship

- NRF is funding the project through its South Africa / Japan Joint Science and Technology Research Collaboration and a bursary is available for the first year (2020) of study and subject to renewal for 2021 contingent on satisfactory progress by the student.

Project focus

Modulation of barrier dysfunction and allergy-related pro-inflammatory activity in keratinocytes by polyphenol-enriched honeybush extracts

Aim:

To identify specific cellular biomarkers quantifying the protective effect of the herbal teas against pro-inflammatory signalling in epithelial cell culture models. This objective will be underpinned by detailed proteomic and selected gene expression analyses to characterise underlying protective mechanisms and to better understand the response of epithelial cells to allergens.

Interested candidates should send their CV, academic record, letter of interest containing details of at least two referees to Dr Mariska Lilly: lillym@cput.ac.za

no later than March 31st 2020.