



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA**



# Tsuha Global Fellows Program

## Description and Application

### Deadlines

**Applications close:** Friday 30 August 2024

**Successful Applicants Announced:**

Tuesday 1 October 2024

### Program Description

The Tsuha Global Fellows Program at The University of Western Australia (UWA) in Perth, Australia, in partnership with Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in Portland, Oregon USA, provides tailored support for the next generation of leaders from low- and middle-income countries (as defined by the World Bank) to alleviate poverty in their home countries through projects focused on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

The program leverages Fellows' existing contextual in-country knowledge and professional experience, then pairs them with mentors and funding to provide successful applicants with targeted educational, mentorship and networking opportunities as they implement proposed or existing projects in their home countries.

The mentors will assist the Fellows with networking, choosing and attending conferences, taking courses in relevant areas to support their work and advising on design and implementation of their proposed or existing projects. Fellows have the opportunity to work with the mentor directly in the Fellow's home country, travel to work with the mentor in a different country, and attend courses, conferences and in person retreats for the cohort. Costs for the above activities are covered by the fellowship within budget. Fellowship funding cannot be allocated for direct project support.

There are no geographic restrictions for applications, however, next-generation leaders from countries in Africa, the Indian Ocean Rim and Southeast Asia are particularly encouraged to apply.

**Applications should align with the experience, expertise and interests of the mentors described below.**

Fellows will be selected on the strength of their resume, written application, previous success in driving projects to completion and most importantly on the potential impact of their proposed or existing project. The applicant's project will be evaluated on its feasibility, tangibility of outcomes, and potential to improve the lives of those living in poverty in the applicant's home country through their work focused on the UN SDGs.



## The Program Mentors

Successful Fellows will be matched with mentors at UWA or OHSU. Two Fellows will be selected to work with each academic mentor, listed below:



**Dr. Mark Nicol** is a clinical microbiologist and Professor of Microbiology at UWA

Dr. Nicol is specifically interested in mentoring emerging leaders in the fields of global policy involving antimicrobial resistance, the impact of climate change on infectious diseases (particularly tuberculosis) and policy to strengthen laboratory services in low- and middle-income countries.

Areas of focus include:

SDG 3 - Good Health and Well Being and  
SDG 9 - Industry Innovation and Infrastructure



**Dr. Siobhan Hickling** is a research dietitian, epidemiologist and Co-Director of the Cardiovascular Epidemiology Research Centre at UWA.

Dr. Hickling is actively involved in projects investigating the impact of environment on eating behaviour and the double burden of malnutrition in low- and middle-income countries.

Areas of focus include:

SDG 2 - Zero Hunger, SDG 3 - Good Health and Well Being and SDG 10 - Reduce Inequalities.



**Dr. Kongkiat Kespechara** is an internal medicine physician, hospital CEO in Thailand, Philanthropist, Innovator and Adjunct faculty member of Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Oregon.

Dr. Kongkiat is interested in the creation and improvement of open-source software to improve patient outcomes in low resource hospital settings.

Dr. Kongkiat's research focuses on the impact of prebiotic rice on the gut microbiome and on improved cognition as well as looking at hunger, poverty and malnutrition in low resource settings.

Dr. Kongkiat runs an elementary school in Southern Thailand where children from low-income backgrounds can learn in a hands-on environment.

Areas of focus include:

SDG 1 - No Poverty, SDG 2 - Zero Hunger, SDG 3 Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG 4 - Quality Education and SDG 9 - Industry Innovation and Infrastructure.



**Dr. Allison Summers** is a clinical researcher, pediatric optometrist, and Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Casey Eye Institute of Oregon Health & Science University.

Dr. Summers' work focuses on improving access to quality eye care for all children.

Dr. Summers is active in remotely co-teaching clinical research principles and application to practicing optometrists in many countries. She has collaborated with local partners in Southeast Asia to design continuity of care programs, support healthcare staff training programs, and to improve healthcare literacy to reduce barriers to care for children.

Areas of focus include:

SDG 1 - No Poverty, SDG 3 - Good Health and Wellbeing, SDG 4 - Quality Education, SDG 5 - Gender Equity and SDG 10 - Reduce Inequalities.

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## Fellow Requirements and Application

To be eligible for the Program, Fellows must have:

- i) completed an undergraduate degree in a relevant field;
- ii) demonstrated written and verbal English proficiency; and
- iii) demonstrated success in project completion in their current area.

Applications to the program must include an actionable project related to the UN SDGs. The Tsuha Global Fellowship prioritizes projects that can lead to meaningful reduction in poverty in a Fellow's home country.

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## Application Process

Please submit:

A copy of your current CV (2 pages maximum);

and

A short supporting statement (1 page maximum, single spaced, 11 pt font) which addresses three questions:

1. Which of the mentors would you like to work with, and why?
2. What is the concrete idea or project that you want to develop through the Tsuha Global Fellows Program?
3. Which SDGs does your project address and how does your project, rooted in the SDGs, improve the lives of those living in poverty in your home country?

Successful applicants in the first round of consideration will be invited to an online video interview for further consideration.

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## Timeline and Requirements

The Tsuha Global Fellowship is a two-year fellowship starting in January 2025 and ending in January 2027.

During this time, Fellows work from their home countries and remotely with their mentors, on a timeframe which works for both, to refine their projects and goals, plan participation in coursework and attendance at conferences.

All community members are expected to attend all community video calls and administrative check-ins. There will be two mandatory retreats for all community members held at the end of 2025 and the end of 2026 at yet to be determined locations.

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## Application Submissions and Enquiries

Submit your application or direct any further enquiries to:

Leah Cronn, J.D.

Associate Director and Assistant Professor,  
OHSU Global SE Asia

Email: [cronn@ohsu.edu](mailto:cronn@ohsu.edu)

Visit our website [globalhealthseasia.com](https://globalhealthseasia.com) and click on Tsuha Fellows Program under **What We Do** to learn more.



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