

# Purpose to contribute to the enhancement of research

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ment of purpose After joining Garyounis in February 2008 as an in the Parasitology Department, I learned that I want to contribute to the enhancement of research in my field, which will have direct relevance to Libyan public health and education. In particular, Libya needs extensive exploratory research on existing parasites and what can be done to monitor and control their growth. I aim to pursue Master of Science in Medical Parasitology in your university, because I have a background that fits your candidate needs; this program will help me attain my professional research and development goals; and your curriculum is aligned with my research and professional interests.

My educational background and experience makes me a suitable candidate of your program. I graduated from Garyounis University in 2005, where I earned my Bachelors degree in Medicine with a GPA of 3.09. Immediately after my graduation, I worked as a physician in the Dermatology Department of Al-jamhorya Hospital in Benghazi. From this job, I learned that dermatologists must update knowledge in treating diverse skin diseases and improve their skills in using emerging therapies and medications. After this job, I joined Garyounis University in February 2008, where I worked as an instructor in the Parasitology Department. The University employed me as a teaching assistant for three years. In 2009, I have been awarded a scholarship for a Master's program in my major, Parasitology. This scholarship provides me with financial resources that will help me greatly focus on my graduate studies, if given the opportunity. This also means that I can take extra-curricular work related to my course, which will respond to my educational goals. Currently I live in Michigan, USA, as an international

student. I chose to study in the U. S. because of the following reasons: First, universities in the U. S. promote diversity, which enables their students to choose the schools that best respond to their educational needs; Second, I am impressed with American universities and their modern teaching approaches and medical technologies, which will improve my knowledge about my program; and Third, American universities offer numerous opportunities to do experiments and to research on any subject included in my study.

During my teaching occupation I realized the demand for additional research on parasitical diseases in Libya. I aim to expand these studies, which can lead to the improvement of public health and welfare in my country. At present, one of the most prevalent parasitic diseases is Leishmaniasis. It is caused by the parasitic protozoa genus *Leishmania*. People are commonly infected through the bites of phlebotomine sandflies, which live in forest areas. I am concerned about these diseases, which affect Libyans, and I hope to be able to do research on where these parasites proliferate and the routes that lead them to the public. This way, my research can affect policies and rules about agriculture, forestry, and supply chain systems, thereby reducing the effects of these diseases on the public.

I am also applying for your Master's program because your curriculum is aligned with my research and educational interests. Your program has areas ranging from molecular genetics to virology, which is important to the strand of studies I want to undertake. I also seek to learn more about host parasite interactions, identification of new drug targets, expansion and application of modern diagnostic procedures, and planning, implementation, supervision

and evaluation of parasitic disease control programs at national and international levels, which will be useful in my studies. I am interested in your pathogenic microbiology and gene therapy, as well as in partaking in your graduate teaching assistantships.

I believe that I have sufficient educational and professional background that will make me a significant student of your program. In addition, my country needs experts in Parasitology, and I know that your Master's program will help me develop the proficiencies required to contribute to the development of my country's public health system.