



2017 BHEARD Scholar
Richard Gashururu

Profile

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	University of Nairobi
Department:	Veterinary Medicine
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant– Ph.D.
Home Country:	Kigali, Rwanda
Home Institution:	University of Rwanda, School of Veterinary Medicine
Home Position:	Assistant Lecturer
Mentored By:	

Research Area: *Epidemiology of Tsetse Flies and Trypanosomes*

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: September 2017

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, Higher Institute of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Rwanda

GRADUATE EDUCATION: M.Sc. Tropical Animal Health– Disease Control, Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp, Belgium

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Richard’s research interest is on the control of neglected tropical diseases, vector-borne & parasitic diseases and zoonosis. These diseases affect animal and human welfare, food security and national economy. In addition, he is interested in “One Health Approach” to have a positive effect and a sustained change in the lives of animals and humans. A collaborative and multidisciplinary approach is necessary to address the complex health challenges, as the humans, animals and ecosystems are interrelated and interdependent. His proposed research is about the epidemiology of tsetse flies and trypanosomes at the wildlife-livestock-human interface of Akagera National Park of Rwanda. There is practically no reliable data and very little is known about the tsetse flies and trypanosomes in Rwanda. Therefore, he wishes to contribute in producing a scientific baseline and contribute to more focused control measures against the disease in Rwanda.

PERSONAL STATEMENT: The University of Rwanda and the nation itself has a shortage of qualified local staff. This program will allow Richard to gain skills and experience but also expand his professional network. Back to his country, Richard will continue serving the university after completion of the program. He plans to contribute much more to research and teaching in his college in order to provide good quality service in the field of veterinary medicine. He will also contribute to community outreach services related to the control of diseases and livestock development.

WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY: Richard enjoys socializing & interacting with people. He likes travelling and visiting any new places. Richard listens to old music especially local, regional and country music