We are delighted to announce that the third AfricaLics PhD Academy for Research Training on Innovation and Competence Building Systems (AfricaLics PhD Academy) will be held in Mombasa, Kenya from 2\textsuperscript{nd} to 13\textsuperscript{th} March 2015.

AfricaLics is part of the world-wide research network, The Global Network for the Economics of Learning, Innovation, and Competence Building Systems (Globelics).

The purpose of the AfricaLics Academy is to support the training of African Doctoral students engaged in research on Innovation and Technology Systems for Development and innovation management and stimulate their awareness of policy and management issues related to this field of research.

The Academy will host about 35 students from Africa and a handful of students from the rest of the world. The Academy will invite frontier researchers in innovation and development and innovation management from around the world to provide lectures and mentor students. The topics of the lectures will cover specific issues within innovation studies and economic development and innovation management as well as research methods and innovation policy.

AfricaLics academy sessions include the following activities:

- Lectures by senior researchers on areas ranging from research methodologies to the latest theories and empirical research in the fields of innovation, innovation management and development studies.
- Presentation by Doctoral students of their work which will be discussed by senior scholars which will give feedback.

We are also hoping to include a set of more interactive sessions enabling engagement with innovation practitioners and policymakers as well as relevant field visits and associated project work.

Following the successful inclusion of an open half day symposium on innovation and development issues affecting Africa at the second AfricaLics PhD Academy, a similar event will also be held during the third Academy.

Senior scholars within innovation studies from various African countries and the rest of the world will teach and provide guidance during the event; giving students exposure to some of the top specialists in this field.
The event will be hosted by Moi University. A local organizing committee has been developed that includes membership from Moi University, the AfricaLics Secretariat based at the African Centre for Technology Studies in Kenya and other relevant stakeholder groups.

Participants and qualification requirements

The number of candidates will be a maximum 35. To qualify for participation, the applicants should fulfil the following requirements:

- be at least in the beginning of his/her second year;
- work explicitly on issues related to policy oriented analysis of science, technology and innovation systems and technology management;
- be able to present an original paper reflecting his/her research and/or thesis work;

Submission

Participants must submit an extended abstract of no more than 5 pages for pre-selection. Abstracts should be typed double-spaced, minimum of 11 point script, in English. The abstract should state the objectives, methodology, expected results and conclusions of the work, including supporting figures and main references.

The extended abstract must be submitted by email to secretariat@africalics.org (quoting ‘2015 PhD Academy’ in the title of your message). It must be accompanied by a short (maximum 2 page) CV and a recommendation letter from the supervisor or a senior scholar supporting your application.

In your application you must also make clear if you wish to apply for travel support – see below for further details

Applications must be received by 16.00 hours East African time on 31st October 2014. Any applications received after this time will not be eligible. Successful applicants will be contacted by 24th December 2014.

Selection

Students’ submissions will be reviewed by a panel made up of members of the AfricaLics Secretariat and Scientific Board. Decisions on successful applications will be made in late December 2014.
The selection process will aim to promote diversity among participants, by ensuring a geographic balance.

Those subsequently invited to attend will be expected to submit online a full paper (Maximum 8,000 words excluding references) by Monday 2nd February 2015.

**Sponsorship including travel**

Accommodation expenses including meals will be covered for all selected participants from the night before the Academy (Sunday 1st March 2015) until the evening it finishes (Friday 13th March 2015).

If you have to/ want to stay in Kenya before or after the event, all travel arrangements and associated costs must be undertaken by the participant themselves.

We have a small amount of funding available to help accepted participants purchase flight tickets. We are unable to provide support for all travel expenses or for all students. We therefore encourage applicants to apply to their host institution or projects for travel support in the first instance.

Travel expenses (flight costs only) for participants studying at African universities who are unable to secure funding from their institutions will be considered. Funding will be awarded selectively on the basis of applications.

If an applicant wishes to apply for assistance towards the cost of their flight, they must specify this during their application. The application must include an estimate of the amount required to cover their return flight (by most economical route possible and on the lowest fare class available) AND a letter from the applicant’s university stating they are unable to cover the cost of the flight. This will aid the AfricaLics Secretariat budgeting process.

Please note the organizers have a limited budget and not all applications for travel support will be successful.

**Contacts**

For more information or queries please contact: secretariat@africalics.org and quote ‘2015 PhD Academy’ in the subject line of your email.