

125
YEARS
1898 - 2023

LSTM
LIVERPOOL SCHOOL
OF TROPICAL MEDICINE



Research
Call:
Colonial
History
Project

Table of Contents

01. Vice Chancellor's Introduction

02. LSTM History

03. Colonial History Project

04. Scope



05. Research Call

06. About LSTM

07. How to Apply





Vice Chancellor's introduction

Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) has a long history as the first institution of its kind in the world. As such we have much to be proud of, including being the home of the first Nobel Prize for medicine. LSTM is a truly unique institution, driven by the passion to make a positive impact on the world's most disadvantaged communities and a commitment to equitable partnerships which underpins all that we do.

We are committed to becoming an anti-racist organisation. Equitable partnerships are at the heart of all our work, as we engage in regional, national and international collaborations to deliver our research and teaching.

As part of this journey, it is vital that we confront our colonial origins and our part in British Imperialism. As part of our 125th anniversary, we commissioned a colonial history research project to deliver a rigorous public record of our past. We welcome applications from historians who can lead this work, supported by activities to digitise our archive collections for wider access

**Professor David Lalloo,
Vice Chancellor of LSTM**

LSTM History

LSTM was founded in 1898 in response to a call from Joseph Chamberlain (the Secretary of State for the Colonies) to tackle the high mortality rate of colonial officers, white settlers and the city of Liverpool's mercantile workforce from 'tropical diseases' which were causing substantial economic cost to the empire.

LSTM's existence in Liverpool was born out of the city's instrumental role in the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its connections to the transatlantic slave economy. The city dominated trade in Africa and the Americas during the 18th and 19th century, transforming the city into a gateway to empire.

The founding donation was given by Sir Alfred Lewis Jones (ALJ) an influential shipping magnate who owned the Elder Dempster Shipping Line and who made significant profits from the colonial exploitation of various African countries.

Further information about LSTM's story can be found here.



Colonial History Project



**Dr Gordon and
Sierra Leonian
Laboratory
Assistant, Freetown
Laboratory, 1925**

We are commissioning a 2-year independent academic research project to create a rigorous public record of the institution's history through robust academic research. Research proposals should explore aspects of the complex relationships between race, history, health, and tropical medicine. This work will inform conversations about the institution's colonial legacies and the future development of our history and heritage strategy.

LSTM has put funding in place to cover the time of a Senior Historian leading the project, with scope to support the appointment of a full-time research associate

As it stands, the suggested timeframe for research is 1898 - 1920 however there is flexibility on this. Recommendations based on historical research for restorative action, and to support the institution's longer-term history and heritage strategy, are expected to be co-produced with relevant internal/external stakeholders. The funding includes provision for a full-time research associate.

The collection is split between two sites at the University of Liverpool Special Collections and Archives, and at LSTM itself. With over 300 linear metres of artefacts, reports, books etc comprising over 400 boxes, 100 volumes and a significant book collection, it is a largely untapped resource. The collection currently housed at the University of Liverpool will be returning to LSTM after

the completion of an Office for Students project due for completion in March 2025, including the addition of an extra archive store and consultation room.

LSTM's collection includes administrative and financial records, biographical details about key members of the organisation, a comprehensive collection of newspaper clippings, annual reports documenting its colonial and financial history, business links with figures including Alfred Lewis Jones and King Leopold II. The archive also houses portraits, records from its research outposts, materials from expeditions, a vast array of teaching resources and documents related to various departments, and a significant collection of photographs

An external advisory panel will be appointed to steer and guide the research team in their work. This panel will consist of historians and both academic and non-academic experts and academics with relevant expertise as well as those with expertise working with communities and their histories as they relate to colonialism.



This is very much a learning journey for us as an organisation, and we look forward to delivering this work with integrity.

Dr Uzoh Egere
Race Equity Action Committee Chair

Scope



The project will explore LSTM's origins, practices, and activities from our inception in 1898 through the colonial and post-colonial periods subject to securing further funding. The initial period of research suggested is 1898 – 1920 (however there is flexibility on this) and should be focussed on the colonial origins of the founding, governance and financing of LSTM. Further expansion to focus on specific periods in our history will be subject to securing further funding.

The project will be supported by our ongoing work to digitise our archives but will also involve sourcing and research of relevant archives nationally and internationally as they relate to LSTM's colonial origins and history. The voices and experiences of those affected by LSTM's colonial endeavours will be integral to the study.

Deliverables and objectives for the initial phase (2 years) include:

- A rigorous academic report of research findings;
- A series of events, seminars, workshops on the findings of the research to both internal and external audiences.



The scope of the project will be set against the context of Liverpool's links with West Africa and capture the history, voices and experiences of the communities who were impacted by LSTM activities across the globe, particularly affected West African communities.

Research Call

LSTM is seeking applications from Senior Historians, ideally Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor level or candidates with equivalent extensive historical expertise and research experience.

The funding allocated is £200,000 over 2-years, including scope to appoint a full-time research associate.

LSTM particularly welcomes applications from Black and Minority Ethnic candidates who are descendants of, or affected by colonialism, imperialism or slavery.

The successful applicant will

- Work with the Advisory Board to agree the scope and objectives of the report;
- Lead the development of the protocol for the work;
- Conduct research into the history of LSTM;
- Appoint, supervise and support a researcher to support delivery of project aims;
- Review and edit the draft report;
- Deliver periodic reports and presentations to project stakeholders;
- Identify and submit funding applications to expand LSTM's work to explore our history and heritage;
- Undertake public engagement activities, throughout the project.

We are looking for someone who brings

- A PhD or equivalent experience in the relevant field of history or related area, with a focus on colonial and imperial history, and particularly with relevance to the LSTM context.
- Ideally Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor level or candidates with demonstrable equivalent historical expertise and reputation
- Evidenced commitment to anti-racism, decolonisation initiatives and race equity;
- Demonstrable expertise in applying decolonial methodologies to historical studies;
- Strong communication and collaboration skills, including working with communities affected by legacies of colonialism and slavery;
- A willingness to work with all relevant stakeholders (including LSTM staff networks and senior management);
- Experience of supervising researchers;
- A proven track record of producing high quality reports on time and to budget.



About LSTM

Established in 1898 as the **first institution in the world dedicated to teaching and research in tropical medicine**, LSTM has been positively impacting the health of the world's most disadvantaged communities for over 125 years.

We have seen great achievements by **our staff and students and can boast many 'firsts', including the UK's first Nobel Prize for Medicine which was awarded to our first lecturer, Sir Ronald Ross.** Alwyn Evans was our first female lecturer, joining LSTM in 1918 and becoming an established expert on the malaria-carrying anopheles mosquito. Since then our staff, students, alumni and partners have gone on to have significant impact in their fields.

Today, with around **600** staff, many based in Liverpool and at our partnership hubs in Africa, we are widely recognised as one of the leading research institutions in the UK, being named 2nd in the UK for the impact of our research.

Our staff work at the cutting-edge of their fields and are internationally recognised as experts and practitioners in tropical medicine and global health. Our research on neglected tropical diseases, including snakebite, as well as infectious diseases like malaria, HIV and tuberculosis has led to ground-breaking advancements in prevention and treatment.

Our clinicians practice in hospitals throughout the world, treating patients alongside their research and teaching; and our social scientists work closely with communities and community leaders to help overcome barriers to accessing health care.

We are also home to one of only three specialist parasite diagnostic laboratories in the UK and our UK Home Office-accredited Herpetarium houses one of the largest and most diverse collections of venomous snakes in Europe.

We are also one of only **21** institutions in the UK named as a world-class specialist provider of education by the Office for Students, a testament to the quality of our teaching and learning.



Key facts:

2nd in the UK for the impact of our research (REF 2021)

Winner of the prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for our innovative vector control project, Tiny Targets

Home to staff, students and alumni from more than 90 countries

Recognised as a world-leading specialist provider of education (OfS)

Ranked in the top 6% of universities*

A combined research portfolio of more than £560m in 2021/22

More than 350 global partners

*Source footnote 2023 edition of the Global 2000 list by the Center for World University Rankings (CWUR)

Assessment Process

For an informal discussion about the project and our aims, or if you have any questions, please contact Equity Diversity and Inclusion Manager Samia Benbrih via email at **History@lstmed.ac.uk**

Interested candidates are expected to submit the following via email to **History@lstmed.ac.uk** by Sunday 16th March:

- CV
- Project Proposal document (including costings)

Timelines

Submission deadline for expressions of interest is Sunday 16th March.

- Interviews are expected Monday 7th, Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th April 2025. Interviews should preferably take place in person, but remote interviews can be supported. LSTM will cover reasonable travel expenses.
- Outcomes expected w/c Monday 21st April 2025.

Please advise us of any reasonable adjustments in advance of interview.

LSTM particularly welcomes applications from Black and Minority Ethnic candidates who are descendants of, or affected by colonialism, imperialism or slavery.

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