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2016 BHEARD Scholar  
**Richard Fredrick Dickson  
Banda**

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# Profile

Country of Study:	Kenya
University:	Egerton University
Department:	Dairy, Food Science and Technology
Student Position:	Graduate Research Assistant—M.Sc.
Hometown:	Lilongwe, Malawi
Home Institution:	Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Home Position:	Chief Laboratory Technician in Food Analysis,

## *Research Area: Food Science and Technology*

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**BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE:** August 2016

**UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION:** B.Sc., Chemistry and Mathematics, Mzuzu University, Malawi

**RESEARCH INTERESTS:** Richard is interested in the field of milk and milk product, specifically physicochemical and microbial analyses for milk and milk products in Malawi. Through this research Richard intends to help improve the quality and safety of milk, which has an effect on the quality and safety of milk products. Milk is a nutritive food product. However, it is also an easy medium for microbial infections and microbial toxins. Through this research, critical control points of the value chain will be identified and proper improvements and enforcements will be put in place to improve the quality and safety.

**PERSONAL STATEMENT:** The study in Master of Science in Food Science and Technology is a steppingstone to greater academic training; a Ph.D in Food Safety and Quality. Richard wants to be a distinguished innovative researcher and educator, whose work significantly contributes to the development of other young scientists, scientific knowledge, policy development, and helps improve nutrition status of Malawi. Professionally, Richard would like to assist in making LUANAR a world-class university.

**WHEN I AM NOT WORKING I ENJOY:** Richard enjoys spending time with his family and friends, visiting places, and reading novels and/or books for general knowledge.