INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY WITH
ELIMU
SUMMER 2018

POSITION: Intern

LOCATION: Kianyaga, Mt. Kenya region, Kenya

DESCRIPTION OF THE HOST ORGANIZATION:

Elimu is a Kenyan NGO founded by McGill Professor Matthieu Chemin in 2006, which undertakes the rigorous evaluation of development projects in order to identify the most effective ways to reduce poverty. Elimu uses randomized experiments to achieve this goal. This initiative stems from the realization that without a proper counterfactual, it is impossible to ascertain the effect of development aid. By randomly assigning the treatment to a treatment group, and comparing it to a control group, much like in a clinical drug trial, the problem of the counterfactual is solved, and Elimu can discern which development projects are successful, and which initiatives are the most cost effective methods to improve living standards. Since 2006, Elimu has been involved in multiple projects. It has been recently forcefully argued by economists that the quality of institutions, rather than geography or culture, explains why some countries are rich and some others poor. One such institution is the judiciary, which secures property rights (e.g., of farmers), enforces contracts, and therefore promotes investment, business creation and economic growth. Despite its logical appeal, it has been very difficult to prove this point empirically, since the influence of the judiciary cannot easily be disentangled from other factors. In 2013, Elimu launched the first randomized experiment measuring the impact of access to the judiciary on economic growth. The goal of the project is to provide legal aid to the poor small scale farmers of this rural community. Elimu is collaborating with Kituo Cha Sheria, a Kenyan legal aid NGO, which provided a paralegal training session to our fieldworkers, and started providing legal aid to community members. The hypothesis is that small scale farmers with a better access to the judiciary, and more secure property rights, will increase their agricultural productivity, and exit poverty.

In this project, Elimu is:

- Identifying potential participants by visiting people door to door and asking if they are involved in legal conflicts, asking them to refer to friends with legal conflicts, and asking elders in the community to refer us to cases
- Collecting a baseline survey with questions on the security of property rights, contracting behaviour, investment, entrepreneurship, access to credit, poverty.
- Providing legal aid to a randomized treatment group together with Kituo Cha Sheria
- Collecting the endline survey after this is completed

Elimu Pamoja/Education Together

In developing countries, especially in rural areas, the quality of education is low, and the youth often have no computers and after school support system. On the other hand, in developed countries, many university students are willing to donate their time to assist these youth, but may not know how to go about it, or are unable to physically travel there due to their studies or cost issues. Elimu has launched an innovative, yet simple, solution to connect both worlds, exploiting the recent improvement in communication technologies: a Skype based tutoring program that would help bridge both this physical and digital divide. By receiving online tutoring from university students in developed countries, students in developing countries should increase their grades, learn how to use computers, and gain exposure to new people and environments. This may translate into better subsequent labor market outcomes, and ultimately economic development. Thanks to a 4,000$ fundraising effort from the crowdfunding website Seeds of Change at McGill University, we successfully implemented a pilot in Raimu primary school in the summer of 2015 Since late 2015, we have phased up our

research to the experimental stage and have providing weekly online tutoring sessions between McGill students and 25 randomly chosen grade 6 students via Skype. Every 3 months, a new wave of surveys measuring English oral comprehension, self-esteem, study habits, and career plans is administered by Elimu fieldworkers. After graduating grade 6 and leaving the program, annual surveys will continue to be collected. The goal is to create a rich data set spanning many years which captures the potentially long term impact of giving primary school students access to the internet in a rural setting.

Micro Hydro Electricity
Elimu is partnering with the Kiangurwe community, north of Kianyaga, to set up a micro hydro turbine that would generate electricity for the community. With affordable electricity, farmers may use water pumps for irrigating high value crops, micro entrepreneurs may create businesses that require light or powered machines, children may spend less time collecting firewood and more time studying at night under proper lighting, women may devote less time to household chores and more to other valuable things such as education. Elimu's goal is to rigorously evaluate the potential benefits of access to electricity and compare them to the costs of running such an operation, in order to inform decision makers and other African communities about the desirability of such a project.

INTERN'S DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES: The Intern will be hosted by Elimu, which comprises the project manager (a McGill student based there for the year) and six Kenyan fieldworkers.
The intern will be expected to support the project manager as well as the activities of the evaluation unit. In particular, these may include:
- Working closely with the other evaluation fieldworkers in the collection, or cleaning of survey data
- Fundraising for the library to acquire computers and organizing the Raimu/McGill tutoring partnership
- Working closely with Kituo Cha Sheria and Elimu's paralegals on the provision of legal aid to participants
- Undertaking qualitative interviews on relevant topics, such as informal conflict resolution mechanisms
- Working closely with Elimu's paralegals to provide trainings to community members
- Assisting Professor Chemin with research for various related projects
- Providing basic computer training to local staff
- Writing grants for Elimu, or partners such as Kituo Cha Sheria
- Organizing activities in the library in collaboration with the librarian and primary school teachers
- The precise duties will be determined in discussion with the intern and depend on the organizational needs during that period and the interest and expertise of the intern.

Interns' duties and projects may not be as listed. These will depend on the needs of the host organization.

HOST ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS: SUITABLE INTERNS SHOULD:
- HAVE PRACTICAL BACKGROUNDS/INTERESTS IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS: ECONOMICS, LAW, COMPUTER SCIENCE, INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- AN INTEREST IN STATISTICS AND ECONOMETRICS IS A PLUS. TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE OF EXCEL, ACCESS, AND/OR STATA IS APPRECIATED.
- HAVE GOOD INTERPERSONAL SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE WORKING IN TEAMS
- BE EXCITED TO INTERACT WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS
- BE SOMEONE WHO TAKES INITIATIVE
- DEMONSTRATED CULTURAL SENSITIVITY AND INTEREST
- HAVE EXPERIENCE LIVING ABROAD, SPECIFICALLY IN A DEVELOPING COUNTRY, IS AN ASSET
- INTERNS ARE REQUIRED TO CONDUCT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS AND/OR IN THEIR COMMUNITY, UPON THEIR RETURN TO CANADA

The intern's duties and projects may not be as listed. These will depend on the needs of the host organization.

HOURS: Full-time, normally 35-40 hours per week.

REMUNERATION: If the internship is unpaid, successful applicants may be eligible to apply for Faculty of Arts Internship Awards.

HOW TO APPLY: Students must complete the online Arts Internship Application Form available on the AIO website www.mcgill.ca/arts-internships

Application Deadlines:
International internships: November 20, 2017.   Canada & US internships: January 29, 2018

All internships will run for twelve weeks from May 7th to July 27th, 2018.

ELIGIBILITY:
- McGill Faculty of Arts student completed 60 credits
- Minimum CGPA of 2.7
- Returning to McGill in the fall following the internship
- Students must fulfill Faculty of Arts requirements as outlined in the Handbook for Interns

COSTS: The intern is responsible for all costs associated with the internship including transportation, accommodations, etc.
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS: Preparing travel arrangements to and from the internship host community is the responsibility of the intern.
ACCOMMODATIONS: Finding suitable lodging during the internship is the responsibility of the intern.

Please Note:
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. At that time, you may be asked to come in for an interview. The Arts Internship Office will then transmit the selected applications to the host organization, which will ultimately be responsible for the selection of the candidate(s).
If you feel you have experienced barriers which have had an impact on your academic performance and wish to highlight these to the selection committee, the documents/comments will be taken into consideration..
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WORKSHOPS:
Successful candidates are required to attend the following sessions:
- Faculty of Arts Interns Meeting (All internships)
- Cross-Cultural Workshop (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- Interns Responsibilities and Guidelines
- International Travel Pre-Departure Session (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- International Internship Debriefing Session (Internships outside of Canada, the U.S & Europe)
- Success in a Professional Environment (Internships in an office setting)

HEALTH AND SAFETY:
All applicants should consult the Global Affairs Canada Travel Reports for the internship host country prior to applying for this internship. http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/menu-eng.asp

Traveling, living and working abroad can involve certain risks to your health and safety that differ from your home country. These may include: crime, political/social instability, tropical diseases/infections, extreme weather conditions, poor infrastructure, etc.

The Arts Internship Office cannot guarantee the safety of any intern in their host country. It is up to the student to fully assess and prepare for any health or security risks that may be involved in pursuing this internship. Applicants are encouraged to discuss potential risks with their family prior to applying.

Applicants must ensure that they are physically and mentally capable of successfully completing an internship in the internship host country. The Arts Internship Office may request a doctor's attestation that an applicant is sufficiently healthy to complete an internship.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:
Interns are responsible for informing themselves of what entry requirements are required to visit and work as an intern in the internship host country. These may include a visa, work permit, passport valid for at least 6 months after entry, and proof of certain vaccinations.
The intern is responsible for acquiring all necessary documents in time for the beginning of their internship.