

Summer 2017 – Practicum/Internship to Support Population, Health & Environment Learning Lab in East Africa.

As part of the Academic Partnership between UC Berkeley and the PHE Learning Lab for East Africa, supported by Pathfinder International, we offer two summer practicum opportunities for UC Berkeley graduate students and/or graduating seniors with the right qualifications.

We expect that both summer practicums will be based in Tanzania, East Africa. Each UC Berkeley student will be 'matched' with a Tanzanian student to enhance two-way learning, future collaboration and effectiveness in the field. \$3,500 is available for each UC Berkeley student and should be adequate to cover transportation and local costs.

Practicum 1

The student(s) will be placed with the Tuungane Project in Western Tanganyika on the shores of Lake Tanganyika and adjacent to Mahale Mountain National Park (MMNP). As a result of a fast growing population with increasing food needs and concurrent decline in traditional fishing intake, local villagers are expanding agricultural production on to upland slopes. Protected forest land is used by villagers for cooking fuel and timber as well as non-timber forest products. Unplanned expansion may threaten chimpanzee habitat and degrade fragile soil resources. Unmet need for family planning and unsustainable agriculture may worsen poverty and family health. Local institutions are strong but under-resourced.

There is a need for village land use planning to accommodate food security and conservation requirements. Designing a feasible benefit sharing will reduce conflict around probable MMNP expansion. The complex linkages between gender roles, reproductive health, food security, income generation and wildlife, fisheries and forest protection require clearer understanding and communication for staff, local leaders and villagers. These communications will improve the effectiveness and sustainability of Tuungane in the long run.

The student(s) will work under the supervision of member(s) of the local Tuungane team and outside partners (at UC Berkeley, Pathfinder Int'l) on one or more concrete tasks associated with the above needs. The exact tasks and deliverables will be defined and communicated to summer interns after a preparatory site trip in early February 2017. Students' academic requirements will be duly considered in refining the exact tasks and deliverables.

Practicum 2

The student(s) will be placed with the recently launched Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative (NTRI) adjacent to the Tarangire National Park in northern Tanzania. NTRI is a partnership between The Nature Conservancy and eight other NGOs: Carbon Tanzania, Dorobo Fund, Honeyguide Foundation, Maliasili Initiatives, Pathfinder International, Tanzania People & Wildlife, Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT), and Wildlife Conservation Society. This multi-sectoral partnership is intended to work with local communities to develop land use plans and secure land rights needed to push back on rapid conversion of rangeland to farmland with severe negative consequences for wildlife corridors as well as Maasai culture and livelihoods. Partner UCRT director, Edward Loure, who won the Goldman Environmental Prize for Africa in 2016, has pioneered the concept of 'collective conservation'. By the end of 2017, UCRT expects to have secured customary land rights over 200,000 hectares of traditional rangeland using Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy.

A key threat to the long-term viability of the northern Tanzanian ecosystems to maintain human and wildlife health is rapid human population growth. During the last 25 years, human population density has nearly doubled in this fragile landscape. Increased access to reproductive health education and services within a culturally sensitive and informed context is part of an integrated solution to conserving wildlife corridors, securing communal land rights and improving family welfare. There is a need for greater understanding of the complex linkages between traditional gender roles, health, herder livelihoods, food security and wildlife protection, as well as better communications about the value of an integrated approach among staff, local leaders and villagers. Clear communication will improve the effectiveness and sustainability of the Northern Tanzania Rangelands Initiative in the long run.

The student(s) will work under the supervision of member(s) of the local NTRI team and outside partners (at UC Berkeley, Pathfinder Int'l) on one or more concrete tasks associated with the above needs. The exact tasks and deliverables will be defined and communicated to summer interns after a preparatory site trip in early February 2017. Students' academic requirements will be duly considered in refining the exact tasks and deliverables.

Required Qualifications

- Graduate student or graduating senior in relevant field – environmental science, social science, global public health, development studies.
- Experience conducting inter-disciplinary research or providing technical support to local organizations/projects in developing countries.
- Ability to live under simple conditions in a remote rural setting for 8 – 10 weeks.
- Experience with field data analysis.

Preferred Qualifications

- Knowledge of Kiswahili.
- Experience working in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Specialization in integrated approaches to reducing rural poverty.
- Proficiency using GPS technologies.
- Good graphic/art skills for communicating information to non-literate audiences.

To Apply

Please email statement of interest and current CV with at least two references to Dr. Robin Marsh (robinmarsh@berkeley.edu) at ISSI no later than December 15, 2016. Applications will be reviewed and a short list of students will be interviewed by phone or in person. A decision will be made before the end of the fall semester.