

The BGI Global Research Fellowship

Summer, 2010

An Undergraduate Media-based Field Program in International Aid Effectiveness



Fellowship Description

The BGI Global Research Fellowship provides rising Juniors and Seniors an opportunity to conduct media-based research on international aid effectiveness in a developing country. Ten fellows will be selected to spend the summer in ten different countries for this unique eight-week field placement. Through interactions with a wide range of stakeholders, fellows will be able to identify organizations that have adopted innovative and effective models for their work. Throughout the field experience, fellows will be able to share their findings with a larger audience through digital media projects.

The summer field placement is **eight-weeks** long and can take place anytime **between May and September, 2010**.

Fellows will be assigned based on their preferences to work in one of ten possible research countries including **Cameroon, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, the Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Morocco, Romania, Tanzania, or Vietnam**.

Application Requirements

- The fellowship is open to **rising Juniors and Seniors**
- Only applicants with previous **international experience** will be considered.
- Fellows must demonstrate skills or interest in at least one of three digital media formats including **filmmaking, photography, or podcasting**.
- Fellows are required to **obtain their own funding** for all fellowship expenses.

Application Instructions and Deadlines:

Applications Due: **Tuesday, January 5th**

First Round Finalist Announcements: Friday, January 15th

Finalist Phone Interviews: Tuesday, January 19th and Wednesday, January 20th

Fellow Announcements: Friday, January 22nd

Frequently Asked Questions

Who runs the BGI Global Research Fellowship?

The BGI Global Research Fellowship was initiated in 2008 by an organization called Beyond Good Intentions (BGI) that specializes in using film and education to generate a meaningful dialogue about how international aid can be more innovative and effective. The BGI team is led by filmmaker and aid specialist, Tori Hogan. For more information on BGI, visit www.beyondgoodintentions.com.

What support will BGI provide me with during my fellowship experience?

BGI will provide training, guidance, and assistance to selected fellows throughout the fellowship period. This support includes: pre-departure training in aid effectiveness and digital media skills, coordination of accommodations in the field, providing connections to field partners, monitoring and assisting with research progress, providing a platform for digital media projects, and helping fellows with any questions or challenges that may arise.

Does BGI provide any financial assistance for fellowship expenses?

Unfortunately, BGI is not currently in a position to provide any financial assistance to cover fellowship expenses. Instead, we have chosen to partner with universities that have existing funds available for independent student research projects. It is the responsibility of selected fellows to apply for relevant funds from their own university to cover all travel and living expenses for their fellowship period.

Where will I live during the fellowship?

The BGI team will assist fellows in finding suitable accommodation options throughout their fellowship period at either budget hotels/hostels or with local families through homestays, depending on the fellow's preference.

What will a normal day as a BGI fellow be like?

Everyday will be different. However, most BGI fellows can expect to spend part of their time meeting with relevant stakeholders including NGO staff members, government officials, and local experts on international aid. The rest of the time will likely be spent in the field, interacting with aid recipients, producing digital media projects, and getting a sense of a project's impact from the ground level.

What type of media projects will I work on in the field?

The digital media projects are a primary focus of the BGI Global Research Fellowship. All applicants are expected to have some skills/experience (or an intense willingness to learn) in at least one digital media format including filmmaking, photography, or podcasting. Fellows will conduct interviews and collect digital stories from the field about innovations in aid to be posted online on a weekly basis.

If you have any questions that were not answered here, please feel free to contact us at BGIGlobalFellows@gmail.com