**RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES in NEPAL**

**KATHMANDU: POLICY & SOCIO-POLITICAL ISSUES**

**Placement:** Martin Chautari is a research and policy institute based in Kathmandu, the capital city of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal. Rich with history and culture, Kathmandu holds several pilgrimage sites for Hindus and Buddhists as well as seven UNESCO World Heritage sites. Martin Chautari aims to produce high quality academic work on issues of democracy, public health, gender equality, knowledge production, internet access, media, education and social inclusion in Nepal.

**Mentor:** Dr. Pratyoush Onta is a Penn alum and Research Director for Martin Chautari.

**Placement:** Rangjung Yeshe Institute (RYI) was founded by renowned monk Chökyi Nyima Rinpoche as an institution of higher learning for those wishing to deepen their understanding of Buddhist philosophy and practice. The Institute has worked in close partnership with Kathmandu University to manage the Kathmandu University Centre for Buddhist Studies at RYI which offers undergraduate and post-graduate degree courses in Buddhist Studies and related topics. RYI offers expertise in Buddhist philosophy and in Tibetan, Sanskrit and Nepali languages.

**Mentor:** Dr. Karin Meyers. Dr. Meyers earned her PhD from the University of Chicago Divinity School. She is continuing to study Buddhist philosophy, Tibetan and Sanskrit while teaching in the BA and MA programs.

**RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES in SRI LANKA**

**KANDY: POLITICS, SOCIETY & CULTURE**

**Placement:** The International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) is one of the country’s leading research centers focusing on ethnicity, identity politics, conflict resolution, post-war reconstruction, caste, democracy and governance, human rights, development and gender issues. The mission of ICES is to deepen the understanding of ethnicity, identity politics and conflict, and to foster conditions for an inclusive, just and peaceful society through research, publication, dialogue, creative expression and knowledge transfer.

**Mentor:** Professor Kalinga Tudor Silva is the Director of Research at ICES Kandy.

**FUNDING & APPLICATION**

All internship applications will be due January 10, 2018. Applicants can apply for opportunities on the Penn Global website. Applications are due Thursday, December 21, 2017 but always check our website to see if deadlines have been extended.

Funding is available through Penn Global for Penn freshmen, sophomores, juniors and graduate students NOT graduating in May or August of summer 2018. There are two application rounds for funding:

- Round #1 Closes: Thursday, December 21, 2017
- Round #2 Closes: Friday, March 16, 2018

To learn more about SAC Reserach Inernships and other SAC Programs by visiting the SAC website: www.southasiacenter.upenn.edu
**RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES in INDIA**

**Jaipur:** Public Health & Health Management

**Placement:** The Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) is located in Jaipur. IIHMR is a specialized research university in health management research, postgraduate education and training exclusively in the health sector. The University aims to generate new knowledge and technologies to provide evidence and inputs for developing effective health policies, interventions and strategies. Jaipur, the capital of the North Indian State of Rajasthan, is known for its architectural beauty and rich cultural arts.

**Mentor:** Dr. Vivek Bhandari is the president of IIHMR and a Penn alum. Dr. Bhandari was the director of the Institute of Rural Management Anand.

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**Chennai:** Artist Residency

**Artist Residency:** Open to art students interested in exploring contemporary art in southern India and community-based art projects. Artist mentors will help students develop a community-based art project that will be created in partnership with a local art student. In addition to organizing site visits to essential contemporary art destinations in southern India, mentors will expose students to the contemporary art world in southern India. The residency will conclude with an art exhibition created by the student and their peer mentor.

**Mentors:** C. P. Krishnapriya and her husband Narendran Kumar are practicing contemporary artists based out of Chennai.

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**Pondicherry:**

**Placement:** Puducherry (previously known as Pondicherry) is a Union Territory nestled in the southeastern state of Tamil Nadu. It has a fascinating mix of Tamil cultural heritage and French colonial history. The historic neighborhood of the French Quarter is known for its tree-lined streets, colonial villas and chic boutiques. A seaside promenade on the edge of town runs along the Bay of Bengal and is host to cafés, restaurants and parks. Pondicherry is a three-hour drive from the metropolis of Chennai.

**Mentor:** Professor Maguipuinamei Rejoyson (Joey) Thangal is an Assistant Professor at Pondicherry University. His research focuses on the psychological impact of stigma within marginalized communities in India.

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**Maldives Whale Shark Research Programme (MWSRP)**

**Placement:** The Maldives Whale Shark Research Programme (MWSRP) is located on Dhigurah, a small Maldivian island southeast of Malé. MWSRP is a research-based conservation organization dedicated to studying the vulnerable whale shark and fostering community-focused conservation initiatives in the Maldives. MWSRP has developed a strong regional network for “citizen-science” as an effective method of collecting valuable information on marine activity. Students conducting research with MWSRP are required to have strong swimming skills and the ability to stand on a moving boat for long periods of time.

**Mentor:** Jim Hancock, the Operations Manager and a founding member of the MWSRP.

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**Transparency Maldives (TM)**

**Placement:** Transparency Maldives (TM) is a National Chapter of Transparency International located in Malé, the center of political, social and commercial urban life in the Republic of Maldives. Transparency International is a leading organization fighting corruption globally. Students interested in studying election monitoring, community outreach and education, human rights, democratization, judiciary accountability, institutional trainings, climate finance, governance and other topics related to anti-corruption movement building and research in the Maldives should consider TM.

**Mentor:** Ms. Mariyam Shiuna, TM Executive Director.

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