

HESN Interns Summer 2014

The Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN) is a network of eight Development Labs led by institutions of higher learning, working collaboratively to catalyze the creation and incubation of novel and transformative science, technology, and engineering breakthroughs by harnessing the ingenuity found at university campuses. This summer, HESN is piloting the "HESN Summer Internship Program," bringing the talent and drive of university students to our colleagues in the U.S. Global Development Lab and throughout USAID. Twenty-one students from four HESN Labs (Texas A&M, Duke, William & Mary, UC Berkeley) will spend 8-12 weeks working for USAID offices spanning five Bureaus (Lab, E&E, BFS, GH, E3). Two-thirds are undergraduates, and one-third are graduate students. Sixteen interns will work in-person at USAID/Washington, and five will work virtually (Lab/Geo, RDMA). Students began arriving in Washington on May 27th, and the last interns are expected to leave in late August. Please join us in welcoming them to USAID!

Over the summer, we will work closely with this first crop of interns to ensure they have a diverse and enriching USAID experience, and most importantly, we are looking forward to learning from them and tapping into their diverse talents and skills. We aim to continue to build on this Program and to ultimately grow it into a lasting source of talent, ideas, and growth opportunities for young professionals interested in international development.

Please join us for final presentations on the work they accomplished over the summer, during the "HESN Interns Showcase" on August 5th and 12th from 1-2:30 in M17/18. For additional information on the HESN Summer Internship Program, please contact hesn.interns@usaid.gov.

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Rachel Benavides



U.S. Global Development Lab
Data and Analytics Team

The College of William and Mary
BA International Relations and History

My fascination with international development and particularly technological innovation in the world of development started with working for AidData at William and Mary. Through TechCon and other HESN events, I was able to make some contacts at USAID and get a feel for the agency's work, and wanted to be a part of it myself!

I hope to make a contribution to the Data team's research and analysis of development data, while learning as much as I possibly can about international development from the perspective of a federal agency.

Rachel Benavides is the HESN Data and Analytics intern at USAID this summer. She is a recent graduate of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, having majored in International Relations and History with a minor in Economics. She is originally from Fredericksburg, VA. She was formerly a Senior Research Assistant with the AidData Center for Development Policy at W&M, which is how she got involved with HESN and developed an interest in international development and working with USAID. Her research interests include gender issues in development, technological innovation in development research, and the history of US foreign relations. In her spare time, she likes to run, travel, read historical biographies, watch Game of Thrones, go to baseball games, and play with her cat, Popeye. In the future, she hopes to continue to work in international development and, soon, to get a masters degree related to the field.

Heidi DeMaret



Global Development Lab
Office of Engagement and Communications

Texas A&M University
BA International Studies and Spanish

Living in a few developing countries sparked my interest in the improvement of the various facets of development at a young age.

I hope to learn more about the government's role in the process of improving developing communities, and how to contribute most effectively to that mission on the Communications Team.

Heidi DeMaret is a Senior at Texas A&M University pursuing a double major in International Studies and Spanish, and a minor in Communications. The experience of living seven years in Jakarta, Indonesia and one year in Guayaquil, Ecuador originally sparked her passion for international development and her love for languages.

Heidi enjoys playing soccer, hiking mountains, traveling, and dabbling on the guitar. During her collegiate years, she has been involved in academic and leadership organizations, interned with an international non-profit organization in Spain, and served in leadership positions on two Student Government commissions. As the Officer of Communications on the Diversity Commission, she collaborated with Student Government Associations commissions to organize events on campus for the student body. Heidi also served as the Assistant Director of the Conference on Student Government Associations (COSGA), a conference that gathers more than 350 Student Government delegates, US and worldwide, to share ideas and effectively improve universities' SGAs. Currently fluent in Spanish and English, she is interested in learning German, French, and familiarizing herself again with the language she once spoke, Bahasa Indonesian.

Alise Dykstra



Texas A&M University
MS Agricultural Economics

Regional Development Mission for Asia
(Virtual) GDO

My interest in working for USAID began while serving in Peace Corps. I was able to meet several USAID personnel and implemented a USAID funded project. I hope to learn how USAID plans their economic development strategy for a country.

Ms. Dykstra is a graduate fellow for the Center of Conflict and Development at Texas A&M University. She is researching factors that influence the adoption of No-till agriculture in Ghana. From 2010-2012, Ms. Dykstra served in Azerbaijan as a Community Economic Peace Corps Volunteer. In Azerbaijan, she worked for the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, teaching business skills to internally displaced persons and smallholder farmers. Dykstra also implemented an Ecological Farm project, funded by USAID. The project provided farmers with solar food dryers, rainwater collection systems, and worm composting bins. Dykstra received her BS in International Agribusiness from Kansas State University where she competed on the Collegiate Equestrian Team. She is originally from a black angus, row crop farm in northeast Iowa. Upon graduation Dykstra plans to continue working in agricultural development overseas.

Kimberly Farmer



**Economic Growth, Education & Environment
Education**

**Duke University
BA Public Policy**

As an international development student, I wanted to have an understanding of how development is realistically implemented on transnational levels and how high level policies and theories of thought are translated down to the ground level. I am particularly interested in women's advocacy, developing political institutions, areas of conflict and crisis, and agribusiness.

Considering most of my development experience has been on the local level, I am excited to learn about how development aid is implemented on macro, transnational scales. I am hoping to learn about the dynamics between missions in the field and government policymakers and how various international organizations interact to achieve development outcomes. I have many interests regarding diplomacy and development, so I am hoping to specify my interests a bit more here a USAID and would love to talk to as many people as I can about their experiences!

Kimberly Farmer is a rising junior at Duke University pursuing a B.A. in Public Policy and minors in Arabic and Economics. Specializing in international relations, she is particularly interested in the intersection of diplomacy and foreign aid and the effect of international organizations on women's rights advocacy, intrastate conflict, and trade relationships in the developing world. Kimberly has spent time in Jordan developing English education curricula for Syrian and Iraqi refugees with the Women's Federation of World Peace and studying interreligious peace promotion with the Royal Institute of Interfaith Studies. She has worked on researching mental health implications of refugee resettlement processes on Iraqi and Bhutanese refugees. At Duke, Kimberly is a Baldwin Scholar and enjoys editing for the Duke Political Review and works with Duke Student Government's Durham and Regional Affairs committee. She loves traveling and will study intrastate conflict and international development perspectives at University College London in the fall. Kimberly is currently interning in the E3 Bureau for Senior Advisor of International Education Christie Vilsack.

Kate Fenimore



Global Health

Office of Population and Reproductive Health

University of California, Berkeley

Master of Public Policy

I came to USAID because I wanted to work in an organization whose scale and level of expertise puts it at the forefront of the world's international development efforts. While working with small NGOs in developing countries, I saw evidence of USAID's work all around me, but I was also keenly aware of how daunting it could be for little organizations to

navigate such a large bureaucracy. As such, I was eager for the opportunity to participate in USAID's work while gaining some insight as to how the organization operates.

For my own personal edification, I would like to get a much better sense of how USAID operates, and what kinds of specific career tracks I may want to pursue after graduation. In relation to my output while at USAID, I hope to help contribute to better information dissemination in the agency that will help support better scaling up of mHealth programs for population and reproductive health.

Kate is a first year Master of Public Policy candidate at the Goldman School of Public Policy at the University of California, Berkeley. At GSPP she is focusing on international development policy, specifically impact evaluation and strategies that utilize technological solutions to support family planning programs. Prior to coming to UC Berkeley, Kate worked on both sides of the development granting process as a grant analyst for a grassroots foundation based in Seattle, WA, and as a grant writer and program designer for a local NGO in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She has a BA in International Studies, focusing on Global Health, from the University of Washington and additionally studied Film and Television Production at New York University. Kate became involved in the Higher Education Solutions Network through Berkeley's Development Impact Lab, where she has supported campus outreach efforts through the Lab's "Idea Team" and worked as an e-intern for the "Securing Water for Food" Grand Challenge for Development. She is currently interning in the Bureau of Global Health, Office of Population and Reproduction, working on knowledge management for mHealth programs.

Divya Giyanani



U.S. Global Development Lab
Center for Global Solutions

Duke University
BA Program II- Corporate Strategy and Global Health Initiatives

As traditional methods used in the development world are becoming increasingly ineffective, I believe that USAID is acting as a catalyst, pushing for more innovation, more investments, and more results.

I hope to help with the development of business plans for the solutions sets being considered for scaling. I

hope to gain a more practical understanding of the creation and maintenance of public-private partnerships as well as the reasoning and process by which to take an innovation to scale.

Originally from New Jersey, Divya Giyanani is a rising senior at Duke University, where she studies corporate strategy and global health through a self-created major. Her classes through the global health, markets and management, psychology, and public policy departments have afforded her the opportunity to identify the various influences and segments of an industry in order to determine where they can be leveraged for maximum impact, particularly within the international health and development world.

In order to gain a more practical understanding of the field, Divya has taken advantage of several domestic and international opportunities during her undergraduate career. She spent a summer in San Francisco, interning at a national non-profit mobilizing students in the fight against HIV/AIDS. She measured cumulative mental health trauma in Leogane, Haiti as part of a research team through her university and a partnering NGO. And most recently, she took courses related to international development policy in Geneva, through which she drafted a report analyzing the international response the 2010 cholera outbreak in Haiti; she hopes to expand this into a senior thesis in the fall. Divya will be working with the Center for Global Solutions in the US Global Development Lab this summer.

Mikayla Hall



Europe and Eurasia

Program Office, Division of Strategic Planning and Analysis

Texas A&M University

BA in International Affairs with a minor in French

USAID is a government agency that provides a space and opportunity for one's desire to make a tangible difference in the world, to make it a better place for all, to be made possible.

I hope to assist with budgetary systems and propose creative solutions to program constraints within the context of a region's history and current political and economic trends.

Mikayla comes to EE Bureau via the HESN internship program. She hails from Denton, TX and currently attends Texas A&M University in College Station, TX as a rising senior. She can tell you everything you need to know about A&M traditions and their football team. She was a competitive soccer and volleyball player in high school and college and enjoys all things outdoors. She is scheduled to graduate in May 2015 with a degree in International Relations and a minor in French. She hopes to pursue her studies further in graduate school to attain a Masters in International Development. She first became interested in development while in her 10th grade World History class and her interest in the subject has grown exponentially since then. She travelled to Tanzania this past March and after her EE internship, she will have her planned study abroad semester in Senegal. These experiences taught her the value of getting to know people and cultures on a personal level. She looks forward to meeting EE colleagues and hearing any advice or stories about our development experience.

Lauren Harrison



**Regional Development Mission for Asia
(Virtual)**

**The College of William and Mary
BA Economics**

I want to support efforts to deliver the most powerful, innovative, and effective development interventions possible. I want to help connect decision-makers with relevant data.

Lauren is a recent college graduate currently working with the USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) to improve donor coordination efforts through spatial data. During her time as a student at the College of William & Mary, Lauren augmented her academic experience with research, working as a Senior Research Assistant and Fellow at the AidData Center for Development Policy. In this capacity she provided front line management and training for the student team, supporting the geocoding workflow on contracts with USAID, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and CIDA. Lauren's GIS-based research has been published on USAID's Impact Blog, AidData's in-house blog "The First Tranche," and was recently cited on the Washington Post's "Monkey Cage." In addition to her work with the RDMA, Lauren is currently posted in Timor Leste as an AidData Summer Fellow with the Ministry of Agriculture and Seeds of Life (Fini ba Moris), working to make geospatial data available in an offline platform to enhance real-time decision making and analysis in the field.

Vinesh Kapil



Global Health
Saving Lives at Birth

Duke University
BA International Comparative Studies

USAID gives me the opportunity to learn about making a global impact via supporting action and fostering growth of local initiatives.

I hope to understand how the various programs within the agency function in the broader landscape of Global Health and Development.

Hi everyone, my name is Vinesh Kapil. I was born in Cincinnati, Ohio, but have spent most of my life living in Atlanta, Georgia. I attended Duke University, which I graduated from this May. I have an older sister (who also graduated from Duke) and a younger brother (who is a sophomore in high school). During my time at Duke, I studied International Comparative Studies and Global Health. At Duke, I was involved in an assortment of student activities from the First Year Advisory Council to Class Council. Outside of work, I enjoy reading, music (especially old school rap/hip-hop), and various TV shows (most recently House of Cards, although it made me nervous about coming to DC). I love playing tennis, basketball and football, and I am a HUGE Duke basketball fan.

I also couldn't be happier to be in such a fun city. I'm looking forward to exploring various neighborhoods, walking the mall, going to different museums and hopefully catching a baseball game or two. I look forward to getting to know all of my fellow HESN interns - feel free to ask me any other questions you might have!

Kamiar Kordi



**Regional Development Mission for Asia
(Virtual) General Development Office**

**Texas A&M University
BS Economics and Political Science**

I am particularly interested in USAID due to the work they do in various parts of Asia, specifically in Afghanistan and Tajikistan.

I hope to be immersed in development finance assignments, being familiarized with particular financial tools aiding the poor and SMEs in developing countries.

Kamiar is a recent graduate from Texas A&M University, with a bachelor of science double major in economics and political science. As a first generation college graduate, he has the goal of pursuing an MBA with a finance focus, hoping to serve in the development sector. Kamiar resided in Tehran, Iran, for the better part of his youth. He is fluent in Farsi in all three aspects of language: writing, reading, and speaking. Kamiar's fervor for human rights in Texas led him to the creation of the Amnesty International chapter at Texas A&M University. Kamiar served as the Vice President of Student Government Diversity Commission, and on the Council on Climate and Diversity. He has also been part of the Academy for future International Leaders (AFIL), International Student Mentor Association (ISMA), International Student Association (ISA), and AIESEC. Kamiar's work and research experience comprises of: Resident Advisor on campus, Research Assistant at the Project for Equity, Representation, and Governance (PERG), International Fellow for Global Cold Chain Alliance (GCCA) in Washington D.C. in the summer of 2013. As of August 2014, Kamiar will start his consulting job in the oil and gas sector in Dallas, hoping for valuable skills and experience.

Emily Mahoney



Global Health

Office of Health, Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition

The College of William & Mary

BA Economics and Public Health

I've worked with non-profits, universities, and developing country governments and everything is pointing back to USAID--I want to understand the US government's role in development.

I want to have a clearer understanding of the different actors at work in the field of international development.

Emily Mahoney is an intern in the Office of Health, Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition. She is rising senior at the College of William & Mary, pursuing majors in Economics and Public Health. Her interest in international development was sparked in Ecuador, where she interned for a non-profit that provided employment, training, and business consulting for local female entrepreneurs. Back at W&M, she began to explore this field by working as a research assistant on maternal and child nutrition projects, both in Williamsburg and in Uganda. Emily is interested in development on both the micro and macro level—as such, she has worked with a grassroots community health research team in Nicaragua and completed a fellowship with the AidData Center for Development Policy (the HESN lab at W&M). Through this fellowship, Emily worked in Uganda with nutrition stakeholders to geocode nutrition aid projects across the country; she will be expanding this project into a senior honors thesis. Emily is excited to work at USAID and explore its role in the international development arena.

Grace Perkins



U.S. Global Development Lab
Office of Engagement and Communications

The College of William & Mary
BA International Relations

Having been taught to be critical of USAID, I knew that I had to experience the organization for myself in order to make a more informed judgment.

I hope to learn more about supporting the Missions and if I feel like I'm making an impact in other countries from my computer in DC.

Grace graduated from the College of William & Mary with a degree in International Relations and French and Francophone Studies. Originally from rural Virginia, she spent her time at W&M learning as much about the rest of the world as she could. While studying abroad in Cameroon, Grace completed a research project on Cameroonian perceptions of U.S. and Chinese foreign aid projects. She spent the following semester in Paris interning for a Tibetan cultural association. Grace returned to W&M to work for AidData, a research and innovation lab that provides easily accessible, transparent, and comprehensive information on foreign aid allocations. With AidData, she helped track Chinese foreign aid flows to Africa. Grace also spent her senior year as a research fellow with the Project on International Peace and Security, an on-campus think tank, and proposed leveraging GIS technology to study the potential relationship between foreign aid and security conditions. Grace has worked during the summers as a camp counselor, sharing her love for marine science and sailing. She is looking forward to starting a fellowship in Ghana in August with the Global Shea Alliance.

Amelia Pittman



Global Health

Center for Accelerating Innovation and Impact

The University of Texas at Austin

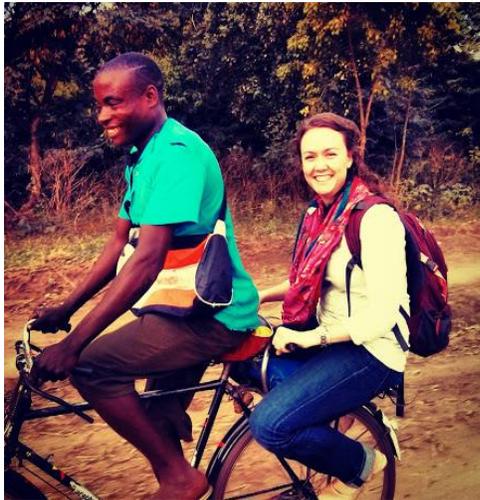
MA Global Policy Studies

I chose USAID because the project that CII wanted me to do has the potential to have a lasting impact and closely relates to my interest in evaluation.

Above all, I want my work for CII to have a lasting impact, making their work in the future easier and more data driven

Amelia Pittman is a second year MA student in Global Policy Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. As an intern with the Center for Accelerating Innovation and Impact (CII), she is developing a set of portfolio planning tools to evaluate and prioritize innovations. She specializes in international development with particular interest in monitoring and evaluation. As a Geocoding Manager for Innovations for Peace and Development (IPD), she is responsible for overseeing the AidData geocoding work under the USAID HESN grant. Prior her work with IPD she was a researcher for AngelouEconomics, an economic development consulting firm in Austin, Texas. There she analyzed the impacts of development interventions and new business innovations. With a BA in Middle Eastern Studies and having grown up in Panama as the daughter of development workers, she is fluent in Spanish and proficient in Arabic and Persian.

Caitlin Shaw



Bureau for Food Security
Country Strategy and Implementation

Texas A&M University
MA Agricultural Economics

Having been involved in the development project process from university and grassroots standpoints, I want to get a different perspective by learning how USAID operates.

I hope to be useful in contemplating how Feed the Future can get young people in Africa involved in their communities through all stages of the agricultural value chain.

My name is Caitlin Shaw and I am from Great Falls, Virginia. I did my undergraduate at Virginia Tech with a degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics with a focus in International Development. I recently graduated from Texas A&M with a Masters in Agricultural Economics. My thesis examined the socioeconomic factors that drive smallholder farmers to adopt various agricultural technologies such as fertilizer, irrigation, and improved storage in three West African countries -- Ghana, Liberia, and Senegal. My research interests include household surveys and decision making, technology adoption, food security, and youth in agriculture. In my career I hope to help conduct household surveys in Africa as that is what I love doing!

Carleigh Snead



**U.S. Global Development Lab
(Virtual) GeoCenter**

**The College of William and Mary
BA Geography**

I am passionate for open data and technology, Carleigh wants to support the GeoCenter in making USAID a leader among the international community in the application of GIS technology for development.

Carleigh hopes to create innovative data visualizations that can be put online for public access and use.

Carleigh is a senior at the College of William & Mary studying Geography and Geographic Information Systems. She brings her experience in GIS, web mapping, and her passion for open data and community mapping. As an intern at the USAID GeoCenter, Carleigh is working to expand the use of geospatial tools and analysis in support of development goals of the USAID Mission in the Philippines. Previously, Carleigh has worked as a Research Assistant and Summer Fellow for AidData. As a Summer Fellow, Carleigh taught GIS to students at Kathmandu University in Nepal. Outside of AidData, Carleigh is a 2nd place award winner in the Open Data Category of the BigIdeas @Berkeley grant competition and is working to implement her project next year. Carleigh is working virtually for the GeoCenter, while she completes her semester abroad at the Universidad Nacional de la Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Andrea “Nikki” Suarez



Economic Growth, Education & Environment

Texas A&M University

BA International Studies-Commerce; Minor in Spanish

My dad worked for USAID while I was growing up, so the agency has a special place in my heart. Not only did I get to see all the amazing work they do abroad, but I also got to experience it. Since I was little I knew I wanted to take part in something like that.

While I'm here I hope to get further insight as to how the agency operates internally. I would like to also work on a project of my own that can be implemented in the future through the Education department.

I was born in Austin, Texas but soon relocated to La Paz, Bolivia, where I attended an international school. At 15, my family and I moved back to Austin and shortly after that I moved to College Station to attend Texas A&M. I completed my degree in International Studies with a minor in Spanish. I graduated this May, and look forward to starting graduate school sometime in the near future. Whoop!

I work at Camp for All, a camp for children with special needs, and it is the love of my life. On any given day, I get to help kids complete a ropes challenge course, learn to swim, or teach them how to shoot an arrow. Camp for All is really my life's work, and I would someday like to work within USAID to help improve conditions (specifically education) for special needs children around the world.

Ishan Thakore



U.S. Global Development Lab
Center for Global Solutions

Duke University
BA Public Policy

I'm fascinated by the breadth and scope of USAID's projects (after seeing many of them in rural India and Kenya), and want to understand how those projects come to fruition.

I hope to learn as much as I can about the opportunities and challenges in scaling up proven health innovations. I also hope to visit and become introduced to other USAID departments.

Ishan Thakore is a rising senior at Duke University, studying Public Policy and Global Health. He is interested in the intersection between technology and healthcare to provide solutions for low-resource settings. These interests have taken him around the world. He spent the summer of 2012 in India researching e-learning solutions for the Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in Ahmedabad. Last summer he was in Muhuru Bay, Kenya and researched technology access of community leaders. In the fall of 2013, he traveled to Morocco for a journalism study-abroad program. He is doing a short stint this summer in Eldoret, Kenya writing his senior thesis on the potential role of mobile phones to provide mental health services in rural areas. Ishan grew up in East Brunswick, NJ, and has a twin brother who goes to Syracuse University. Ishan loves to run, write, read, watch movies, play tennis and is always up for an adventure.

Gabriel L. Vander Hey



Economic Growth, Education & Environment
Education

Texas A&M University
MA International Affairs

My previous work with USAID funded projects and my passion for both education and international development made the internship at USAID an appealing opportunity.

I hope to better familiarize myself with the day-to-day operations of USAID while working on projects that will better the lives of students around the world.

Gabriel L. Vander Hey, a native of Louisiana, is a recent graduate of the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. There he earned a Masters degree in International Affairs with concentrations in International Development and Economic Policy, Nonprofit Management, and Conflict and Development. Vander Hey most recently worked as an assistant to the network coordinator at the Center on Conflict and Development at Texas A&M (ConDev), a member of the USAID Higher Education Solutions Network. In addition to his work at ConDev, Gabriel was a member of the Spring 2014 Bush School Capstone group working with staff at ConDev to strengthen projects in DR Congo focusing on child soldier rehabilitation programs. Previously, Gabriel served as an education volunteer for the United States Peace Corps in Mozambique as well as worked as a French teacher before his studies at Texas A&M.

Maria Watson



**Regional Development Mission for Asia
(Virtual)**

**Texas A&M University
Ph.D. Urban and Regional Science**

I have wanted to work for USAID since middle school! I am very grateful for the opportunity.

I am very excited to learn about resiliency issues at the international scale and hopefully help vulnerable communities in other countries become more resilient to man-made hazards, natural hazards, and climate change. This is a great opportunity to share knowledge and I hope I can continue this work throughout my Ph.D.

I grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio and got my undergraduate degree in City and Regional Planning from Ohio State University. I then got my Master's in Urban Planning from Texas A&M University this past spring with a certificate in Environmental Hazard Management. My specialty is economic development in the context of natural hazards-- While at Texas A&M I worked with the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center and created a study on Business Recovery and Business Recovery Finance in Galveston, TX after Hurricane Ike. I will begin my Ph.D. at Texas A&M in the fall and will continue to work on business/economic recovery and resiliency issues. Before this internship I have worked with the International Economic Development Council in Washington, DC as well as the Coalition for Homelessness and Housing in Ohio. I am also a graduate assistant with the Department of Urban Planning and was president of a group at Ohio State that performed traditional dances from Spanish-speaking countries. For fun, I love spending time outdoors and birdwatching.

Brooke Whitenburg



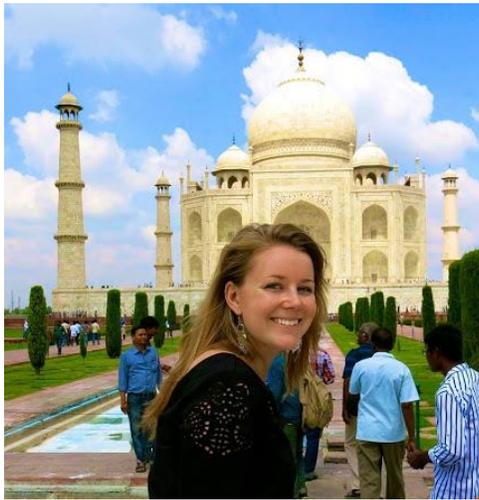
Economic Growth, Education & Environment
Forestry and Biodiversity Management Team

Texas A&M University
MA International Affairs

I specifically applied to FAB because I wanted an internship that would combine my Undergraduate degree, with my Masters degree. I am certain that this internship will expand my knowledge of government-based conservation initiatives and will help to guide me towards my future career.

I am currently a Masters student in International Affairs at the George Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. Before A&M, I received my B.S. from Texas Tech University in Environmental Conservation. I am extremely excited to be working for the Forestry and Biodiversity Management team at USAID. I specifically applied to FAB because I wanted an internship that would combine my Undergraduate degree, with my Masters degree. I am certain that this internship will expand my knowledge of government-based conservation initiatives and will help to guide me towards my future career. As a fun fact, I would love to have a career that enabled me to work with and study tigers in their natural environment.

Steph Wraith



Global Health

Nutrition, working with the HaRP

The College of William & Mary

BS Biology & Global Health

I wanted to intern with USAID because after spending the past few years learning about global health from a heavily science and community-based background, I'm interested in learning more about the larger, multilateral policy factors that influence aid programs for health.

I hope to expand my understanding of aid and global health, and simultaneously be able to contribute valuable outcomes to the team I'm supporting this summer.

Hi everyone! I'm a rising senior at the College of William & Mary, double majoring in Biology & Global Health, and I'm so excited to be spending the summer working with USAID. I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, but I'm thrilled to get to spend some time this summer learning more about the Washington, DC area. I'm involved in research in both the Biology and Public Health departments at William & Mary; when I'm not in class or in a lab, I work as a tour guide and peer advisor for the international study program. I'm also the medical coordinator for a student-run organization that travels to Nicaragua several times throughout the year to do work in community research and provide free clinical services. After wrapping up my studies at William & Mary next year, I'm planning to attend graduate school to further expand my knowledge of global health, and particularly emerging infectious diseases; hopefully my work this summer with the research team in the HIDN office will better inform my abilities and career plans in this arena.