

JANAAGRAHA CENTRE FOR CITIZENSHIP AND DEMOCRACY (JCCD)

Number of Placements: 2

Placement Site: Bangalore, India

URL: <http://www.janaagraha.org/>

Field/Subject Area:

Open to all York students who meet the eligibility criteria

NOTE: 2 out of the 4 positions are available as per student interest, eligibility and appropriate match with the positions.

1. RESEARCH

Position Description:

The Research and Insights team is a core unit of Janaagraha's Advocacy and Reforms cluster. Research and Insights engages in action-oriented research activities that further Janaagraha's advocacy, online platform, and grassroots objectives. The work includes needs analysis, monitoring and evaluation and evidence to support policy. The Research and Insights team also seeks to further connections and applied research initiatives with various urban research stakeholders, to promote the need for increased urban research in India, particularly in the areas of governance, citizenship, and urban infrastructure and service provision.

Specific tasks will include:

- Assisting the Research and Insights team with research on existing and potential new projects.
- Assisting with writing and editing of reports and articles.
- Assisting with data cleaning, data coding and data analysis using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.
- Supporting the design of qualitative and quantitative research frameworks.
- Supporting the Research and Insights team during field-based work.
- Providing general logistical/organizational support to the team as required.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Qualifications/skills required:

- Excellent oral, written and communication/presentation skills in English
- Undergraduate/Graduate students with an interest and knowledge of research
- Background in Economics, Public Policy, Political Science, Management and other relevant social sciences
- Strong analytical and research skills
- Willingness to work both independently and collaboratively with the team to achieve desired results despite conflicting demands or priorities
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and SPSS (preferred)

2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Position Description:

The outreach programme at Janaagraha entails communicating and maintaining stakeholder relationships (civic authorities and citizens) for awareness of two pioneer programs 'ichangemycity.com' and 'ipaidabribe.com'. IPAB (ipaidabribe.com) is Janaagraha's unique initiative to tackle corruption by harnessing the collective energy of citizens. The "I Change My City" website enables to initiate the process of change by providing information to citizens about their wards, corporates, civic bodies, public services and elected representatives.

Specific tasks will include:

- Communicating with citizens on the websites, regarding important updates for the issues they've posted; and ensuring customer delight while doing so.
- Working/Assisting the outreach team with the daily reports sent to civic agencies (BBMP, BWSSB, BESCOM etc.,)
- Working along with the marketing team for offline promotion events.
- Preparing/analyzing Surveys (if any during the internship period) about the reach/ways to improvise the product.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Qualifications/skills required:

- Strong Communication Skills: Ability to communicate information tactfully and precisely.
- Good excel skills: required for reports/data analysis.
- Logical Approach/Problem solving ability.
- Driven by the concept of 'social change' and keen interest to learn more about the field.
- Undergraduate/graduate student pursuing Commerce, Arts, Economics, Mass Communication

3. ASICS

Position Description:

India's only independent benchmarking of cities through a systemic framework. ASICS evaluates City-Systems - the complex, mostly invisible factors such as laws, policies, institutions, processes and accountability mechanisms that strongly influence Quality of Life in India's cities and benchmarks them against global counterparts. In its second year in 2014, ASICS has expanded its footprint to 21 cities from the original 11 cities and provides city administrators and policymakers with a diagnosis of systemic reforms needed in their respective cities.

Specific tasks will include:

- Researching for unique practices and processes followed by cities across the world with respect to the 4 sections of the City-Systems framework
- Analyzing data from the survey and drawing trends/conclusions from it
- Generating recommendations for City governance based on the analyses
- Assisting team members in writing the ASICS report
- Supporting team members in arranging for the ASICS event
- Work pending is data collection on parameters of transparency, accountability, audits, municipal finances, urban resources etc.
- Municipal finance and audit: Analysis of audit reports on urban local bodies by state auditors and study of state budgets and city budgets to understand the financial sufficiency and reforms being conducted in this sphere by GOI.
- Policy briefs: We will be coming out with policy briefs for external stakeholders every fortnight from now. Intern shall be involved with qualitative and quantitative research. The briefs will be based on issues faced in urban India and tied into the work Janaagraha does.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Qualifications/skills required:

- Good excel skills: required for reports/data analysis.
- Good data research skills and writing skills.
- Undergraduate/graduate student pursuing Law, Economics, political science, other social science, management.

4. IPAB ADVOCACY

Position Description:

IPaidABribe.com (IPAB) is a citizen driven mechanism for tracking bribe payment activity, as also instances of when people resisted bribe payments or did not have to pay bribes because of good government systems or good people within the government systems. Citizens' reports on the nature, number, pattern, types, locations and frequency of actual corrupt acts and values of bribes will add up to a valuable knowledge bank that will contribute to a reduction in bribe payments. The IPAB Advocacy initiative works together with IPAB's platform in order to accomplish the objective of reducing instances of retail corruption in government departments. It's a unique initiative that has a three-prong approach to the intervention in retail corruption, which includes:

- Redressing grievances – where the IPAB Advocacy team forwards relevant cases and follows them with the respective departments
- Process reforms – where the IPAB Advocacy initiative after thorough analysis suggests reforms required in government processes and legislation to alleviate and ultimately eradicate retail corruption
- Education and capacity building – where the IPAB advocacy initiative attempts to develop ways to spread awareness about retail corruption across various stakeholders

Specific tasks will include:

- Researching and analyzing Laws, practices, rules, policies, existing literature on retail corruption
- Assisting in analyzing crowdsourced corruption trends as captured on the website
- Assisting in maintaining data and liaising with international partners
- Organizing educational outreach and advocacy events related to knowledge dissemination for fighting corruption
- Providing general logistical/organizational support to the team as required.

Complete all tasks assigned, which includes but is not limited to the responsibilities outlined above.

Qualifications/skills required:

- Excellent oral, written and communication/presentation skills in English
- Undergraduate/Graduate students with an interest and knowledge of research.
- Strong analytical and research skills
- Willingness to work both independently and collaboratively with the team to achieve desired results despite conflicting demands or priorities.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel and SPSS.
- Undergraduate/graduate student pursuing Law, Public Policy, Political Science, Social Welfare and other relevant social sciences.

Expected work hours: 8 hours a day, 6 days a week

Preferred start date: Early-Mid May

Language requirements:

Fluent in English (additional fluency in one or more of: Kannada, Hindi, English, and Urdu preferred)

Highlights of Organization/background information:

Janaagraha is a Bangalore based not-for-profit organization that works with citizens and government to change the quality of life in India's cities and towns.

The term “quality of life” has two separate aspects, distinct and inter-related: the first is “quality of urban infrastructure and services”: the roads, drains, traffic, transport, water supply etc. in our urban areas.

The second aspect of “quality of life” is the “quality of citizenship”: the role that urban residents play by participating in civic issues, deepening democracy and holding our public institutions accountable in delivering various goods and services. This second aspect includes very importantly the aspect of voluntarism.

Founded in 2001 by Ramesh Ramanathan and Swati Ramanathan, Janaagraha started as a movement to include people's participation in public governance and has now evolved into a robust institution for Citizenship and Democracy.