Internships in India Program (IIP)

2017-2018

Information on Internship Opportunities for Ontario Students

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTERNSHIPS IN INDIA PROGRAM (IIP) .................................................................................................................. 3

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (NCR).......................................................................................................................... 4

I. At Zubaan (feminist publishing house, New Delhi); (unpaid internship) ................................................................. 4
II. Via OIN’s partners at Miranda House (unpaid internships) .......................................................................................... 5
   1. WOMEN’S FEATURE SERVICE (unpaid internship) ......................................................................................... 6
   2. CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH (CFAR) .................................................................................. 7
   3. GIRLS COUNT ................................................................................................................................................ 8
   4. GRASSROOTS SUPPORT FOUNDATION: WOMEN FOR CHANGE ....................................................... 10
III. Prayatna Educational Society (unpaid internship) ................................................................................................. 11

MUMBAI .................................................................................................................................................................. 13

IV. At Majlis (Unpaid Internship) .................................................................................................................................. 13

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS PLANNING AN INTERNSHIP VIA OIN ......................... 14
INTERNSHIPS IN INDIA PROGRAM (IIP)

- **Aim:** to open up opportunities for Ontario students to gain some international experience by working in local NGOs.
- At this point in time, we are forming partnerships with well-established organizations with whom we, further, have our own affiliation.
- In some Ontario universities, international internships (unpaid and paid) are being assigned co-op credit.
- Students may be required to pay a modest fee to NGOs where they are placed or to the university. This fee is intended to help cover the cost of supervision and mentorship in the case of NGOs and to cover administrative costs in the case of universities.
- The evaluation report which organizations provide at the conclusion of an internship will be sent to the international office at your home institution unless otherwise specified by you. If you require extra copies of the evaluation, please arrange to have these sent to you BEFORE leaving India. The organization will not be maintaining a master copy of the evaluation report and thus will not be in a position to send these out in the event that, at some later point in time, you require a copy.
- Contact person for all internship locations listed below: Sukeshi Kamra, OIN Academic Director, sukeshi.kamra@carleton.ca

**Combine academic study with internship or internship only:**

(i) Students can do an internship only (of between 2 and 3 months). This works well for students in programs that have a practicum or internship as a required element of their program. They would arrange to get credit for the internship via the International Office at their home institution.

(ii) Students can also combine academic exchange with an internship. For example, a student could arrange to take courses in any of the institutions in the National Capital Region (NCR) for, say, the winter term (Jan – early May) and follow it up with a two month internship (the minimum is usually two months); or take courses at Pondicherry University and do an internship at Prayatna in Delhi, and so on.
I. At Zubaan (feminist publishing house, New Delhi); (unpaid internship)

Address: 128B, First Floor
Shahpur Jat
New Delhi 110049
Tel: 91.11.26494613
(http://zubaanbooks.com/)

i. Overview

- Zubaan is an independent feminist publishing house based in New Delhi started by Urvashi Butalia (best known as the owner formerly of Kail for Women, the first major feminist press in India and for her scholarship, research, and academic writing as well as lectures on the 1947 partition of India. In fact, she was the first person to put together an archive of testimonials of survivors of the partition in the Punjab). Urvashi is actively engaged with faculty at Indian institutions (given her activism in: partition, gender in India, sexual violence, the condition of minorities in India, the working poor) and is at the forefront of Delhi’s intellectual scene.

- Zubaan publishes academic books, fiction, memoirs and popular nonfiction, as well as books for children and young adults under the Young Zubaan imprint, aiming always to be pioneering, cutting-edge, progressive and inclusive. Apart from publishing many books every year Zubaan also handles a few research and outreach projects. A recent project was an SVI Project that documents Sexual Violence and Impunity across South Asia. It was funded by IDRC. Another project was a feasibility study that explored women's museums across the world in the hopes of setting one up in India. It was funded by the Ford Foundation.

ii. Internship Information

- The press offers university students from around the world the opportunity to do an internship on its premises (which is in South Delhi).
- The internship program usually starts in April or May and continues to the end of summer, i.e. September. They are thinking of taking in interns at other times of the year as well since there is much demand for their internship program.
- Duration: 8-12 weeks.
- Location: at the Zubaan office (Shahpur Jat, New Delhi)
- Hours: full time, 11 am-6 pm, weekdays
- Applications: must be submitted to OIN
- Zubaan asks for a resumé and a cover letter in which the student describes her/his area of study, indicates why s/he is interested in interning with Zubaan, and provides any other information s/he deems relevant.
- Zubaan assesses applications for evidence of: (a) initiative and connection with the student’s own work; (b) areas of interest; (c) language skills (a majority of interns are
given editorial work; sometimes they are assigned specific event-based work and/or researching of issues).

- Interns are subject to regular evaluation and one of the editorial staff is assigned the role of mentor. At the conclusion of the internship, an evaluation report is provided by the press and will be sent to the international office of your home institution (unless otherwise requested by you).
- Since the press publishes scholarly and creative writings on issues related to gender, class, the internally displaced as well as refugees, it is best suited to students interested in social and political justice issues who also have an interest in public education and dissemination of these issues.
- See [http://zubaanbooks.com/intern-with-us](http://zubaanbooks.com/intern-with-us) for the most up to date information on the internship program, current projects, and application process. The information requested by Zubaan can be included in the OIN internship application form, which will be forwarded to Zubaan by the OIN academic director.

- Students need to find their own accommodation. The OIN director may be able to assist.

iii. Areas open for internship
- Marketing and editorial work on promotional materials for current titles
- Adapting project-generated data for dissemination
- Social media and marketing: curating/commissioning/writing posts for the Zubaan blog; working on the monthly newsletter; developing marketing strategies for selected titles; analyzing previous years’ data to assess impact of individual titles
- Ebooks: co-ordinating curation of ebooks on the Zubaan website; managing and uploading of Zubaan ebooks on other ebook portals; working with the marketing department on ebook promotion; research into ebooks and accessibility
- Editorial: preparing readers’ reports; shadowing and assisting editorial team on current titles; leading one title through the production process

II. Via OIN’s partners at Miranda House (unpaid internships)

[PLEASE NOTE: Information about Miranda House College, a partner institution, is available in the ‘Information on Indian Institutions” document which is posted on the OIN website]

NOTE: there are a few NGOs with which OIN is partnered via Miranda House faculty: (1) Women’s Feature Service (2) Centre for Advocacy and Research; (3) Girls Count; (4) Grassroots Support Foundation: Women for Change. Please see below for information on these organizations.

Application process: is the same for all three. Please submit a cover letter and CV. In the former, indicate your areas of study and research interest and explain why you are interested in being an intern at the organizations you have listed in your OIN application (in ranked order).

Students need to find their own accommodation. The OIN director may be able to assist.
1. WOMEN’S FEATURE SERVICE (unpaid internship)

Address: D-1/3, Second Floor,
Safdarjang Development Area,
New Delhi 110016
Telephone: 91.11.45057436

(www.wfsnews.org)

i. Overview & Objectives

The WFS is based in South Delhi (Safdarjang Development Area) with offices in other parts of the world (see eldis.org for details). It was established by UNESCO in 1978 and emerged as an independent organization in 1991. WFS is a syndicated news service focused on the dissemination and education of global publics on gender issues. Its mandate is to build “awareness about women’s lives, rights and concerns” (wfsnews.org) in the media, youth, and the public at large. An important activity of the organization is the researching, publishing, and dissemination of women’s (and other marginal groups) stories and issues as widely as possible. Topics regularly covered include politics, human rights, economic development, women’s movements, the environment, climate change, agriculture, global health, conflict and security, food security, and governance.

Here are some of WFS’ recent activities, as posted on their website (taken verbatim):

- Conducting a media workshop focused on the challenges of reporting from conflict zones and promoting understanding on international humanitarian law in Ranchi
- Anchoring 25 features on “Women in Conflict Zones” in partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross. The activity was followed by a seminar on the subject attended by survivors of conflict and a public photo exhibition of images from the series of features.
- Conducting a fellowship project for 15 journalists on the theme “Women as Agents of Change.” It concluded with photo exhibitions on the features filed by the journalists.
- In association with UN agencies, WFS conducting two capacity-building workshops for journalists at the community level in two Indian cities—Lucknow and Jaipur. The aim of the workshops was to promote awareness of Millenium Development Goals (MDGs)
- Co-Hosting a seminar on defining governance and citizen’s rights for university students.

ii. Internship Information & Projects

The WFS in India engages in the following activities, all of which are open to interns (the following is taken verbatim from their website):

- Offers professional advice on media strategy to NGOs.
- Provides resource material to research organizations
- Undertakes media monitoring projects
- Organizes public talks and discussions on topical issues
- Generates images of women in various social settings and contexts
- Partners with social groups and agencies working on social issues
• Designs and implements workshops to sensitise and train media professionals on gender and development issues
• Highlights the work of civil society initiatives and development projects at regional, national, and international levels.

2. CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH (CFAR)
   (http://www.cfar.org.in/about-cfar)

i. Overview
   (The following information is reproduced from the centre’s “how we began” section on their website)

The Media Advocacy Group, a collective of professionals from the fields of journalism, advertising, research and publishing, came together in 1992 when the media, both print and television, were witnessing phenomenal growth and engaging a broad spectrum of socio-economic age and gender groups.

In 1997, the group which was part of Women’s Feature Service decided to create a separate institutional entity that would focus on the needs and concerns of women, children, the poor and marginalized communities; resulting in the creation of the Centre for Advocacy and Research.

The focus was on a strong gender and development perspective given the growing influence that media was having in shaping public perceptions of gender and development. The team decided to focus on the media, critically review media content, conduct surveys on emerging trends and use their findings to create awareness among the media about emerging trends and critical issues.

The team did several seminal studies on issues ranging from the impact that television violence had on children to an analysis of the depiction of adolescence by the electronic media. It also diversified into related areas and created a communication strategy for the District Primary Education Programme, set up a Women and Media Network with likeminded groups in Mumbai, Kolkata and Bangalore and Viewer’s Forums in the four cities of Delhi, Ahmedabad, Lucknow and Mau. These forums have been taking the lead in motivating and educating communities and are a constant source of organized viewer activism.

Today CFAR has more than 180 team members working across 11 states under various projects in the capacity of- full time regular staff, professional consultants and experts and part time/short term issue based workers/ associates. Their expertise extends to:

• Designing, planning and implementing communication strategies
• Partnering stakeholders in creating schemes
• Building capacities of NGOs, CBOs and individuals to address their rights
• Building community centered awareness on their concerns
• Documenting innovative development initiatives

ii. Internship Information and Internship Projects under CFAR

CFAR projects include the following:
• Girl Child
• Urban poor
• HIV/AIDS.
• The organization has schools and maternity homes in slum communities and has as a key focus on the education of the marginalized (about their rights, health, and so on).

(The following information is taken from the “What we are doing” section of their website).

As our expertise has grown so has our commitment to mainstream marginalized communities - sex workers, transgender and other sexual minorities, forums of single women, networks of HIV positive persons, injecting drug users, people living with disabilities, the urban and rural poor and the girl child - so that their issues can be understood and their concerns shared.

From the onset this is being done by building the necessary synergy between communities, concerned stakeholders, the media and civil society through partnerships and awareness and capacity building at various levels. CFAR has been facilitating communities to work with the media, using evidence from the ground to highlight their issues and concerns. This has in fact been central to our initiatives and we have been creating new and innovative tools to advance the rights of marginalized and vulnerable communities; like training them to be spokespersons of their community.

Activities, all open to interns, include:

• the daily tracking of national, state and district media reports on these communities and the documenting of interesting, innovative and successful initiatives.
• The training of programme implementers and peer leaders from these communities to enable them to interact with the media and providing support to the media during crisis response work.
• Facilitating media practitioners to improve their knowledge of the issues and concerns of communities in order to improve coverage and reduce biases and misinformation.
• Facilitating communities by supporting their initiatives in both building and disseminating the realities on the ground. Strategic tools and instruments including public hearings, community surveys and consultations are being done by accessing the Right to Information.
• In sum: The focus is on empowering communities to collectivize, form forums, become spokespersons and demand their rights and entitlements.

3. GIRLS COUNT

(http://www.girlscount.in)

i. Overview

(The following information is taken from the “Know About Us” section of their website)

Girls Count is a civil society response to the gender biased sex selection and the declining child sex ratio. Ideologically positioned against discrimination and patriarchy, it seeks to arrest this decline as well as address issues that stem from them. The initiative is therefore in the nature of a ‘platform’ with two ‘specific campaigns.’ The platform presents a broad framework which is
inclusive, open and comprehensive. It looks at multiple dimensions, and identifies patriarchy as the root cause of this issue. The two specific campaigns, one on patriarchy and another on PCPNDT, have been designed to reinforce the ‘platform’ by extending support to other campaigns and promoting synergies and collaboration through joint actions. They provide the space to create a dialogue between existing initiatives on the declining child sex ratio; as well as present the opportunity to form linkages with other human rights campaigns.

There is a dedicated long-term pan India national level effort, using a decentralized approach to work on local issues related to gender discrimination across the country. Using a multi-sectoral lens to meet the complex dimensions of the issue, which is intrinsically linked to gender, rights, choice, commercialization of technology, policy and politics, Girls Count brings together, people and organizations, committed to changing the status quo.

ii. Objectives and Strategies
(The following information is taken from the “Objectives and Strategies” section of their website)

Objectives: Using a comprehensive, multi-layered and multi-pronged approach, the initiative has four key objectives:

- Challenge patriarchy and its manifestations in government policies, programmes and schemes to ensure equal opportunities for women and girls
- Ensure effective and accountable implementation of the PCPNDT Act
- Ensure that declining child sex ratio is a critical agenda of the public domain through proactive engagement with influential social and political formations, and
- Strengthen and build coalitions with civil society networks and alliances

Strategies: The strategy will vary from place to place, to address location specific issues. It is dynamic and open to being reshaped based on the responses that emerge from the ground. The key strategies (activities) include:

- Research and study on structural issues related to women and girls
- Discussions and meetings: Face to face and online forums
- Media outreach
- Public and policy advocacy
- Bilateral dialogue and consultations, and
- Networking

iii. Internship information
(The following information is taken from the “Volunteer/Intern” subsection found under “Get Involved”)

- To volunteer or be an intern with the Girls Count initiative, you must be over 18 and be studying towards or have completed your degree in social sciences, development studies or other relevant discipline.
- Though the internship can be long or short term – we advise a minimum duration of at least 3 to 6 months for it to be mutually beneficial.
- If you are interested in making a difference and contributing to the ongoing activities and
getting experience of working in the social development sector, this provides the perfect opportunity.

- You will receive hands-on experience in carrying out the multifarious activities, involved in conducting a campaign. It could involve support in research, designing and conducting outreach and operational activities, communication and social media as well as exposure to the field. In all these, you will be mentored by experts in their respective fields.
- Interns will leave with a fairly good understanding of the various dimensions of diverse development issues, particularly those pertaining to the discrimination against women and girls. You will receive a letter of recommendation at the end of your internship, detailing the work you undertook and your contributions. The internship provides an excellent launch pad for a career in social development.

4. GRASSROOTS SUPPORT FOUNDATION: WOMEN FOR CHANGE

(http://grassrootsupportfoundation.org/)

i. Overview
(The following information is taken from the “About us” section of their website)

GRSF consists of a team of likeminded academicians, researchers, activists and other professionals. The organization is a Community outreach one, enabling Corporates and NGOs to provide support for Organizational Development, Capacity Building and Training on issues related to Sexual Harrasment at Work Place, Value of Girl Child, Gender based Violence and Women's Empowerment. It is a one stop (community/cluster) network set up with an aim to provide transparency, accountability, performance and sustainable growth. It draws upon a campaign named Campaign Against Pre-birth elimination of Females (CAPF) being run since 2002 and consolidates the understanding developed during the last decade along with the significant networks built with civil society organizations in the process to make interventions in a more concerted manner.

The aims of the organization are:
- To **empower** grassroots organizations and youth through relevant education, innovative healthcare and market-focused livelihood program
- To **promote** development with a rights based gender sensitive approach
- To **emphasize** on transparency, accountability, performance, sustainability and with social development initiatives

ii. Programs
(The following information is taken from the “What we do” section of their website)

1. Women and Laws
2. Women and Health
3. Gender and Development
4. Capacity Building
5. Training
iii. Internship Information

Same as the information provided under “Girls Count”.

iv. Information about Bijayalaxmi Nanda (professor at Miranda House and my contact for the college and internships mentioned here)

(The information is taken from the “Core Team” subsection of the “About Us” section of their website)

Bijayalaxmi Nanda is an academic, feminist activist and researcher who teach Political Science and Gender Studies in Miranda House, Delhi University, India. Her engagement with social sector, beyond academic curriculum, started just after she joined work in the University of Delhi. She has worked closely with international bilateral and multilateral agencies such as UNFPA, UNDP, WHO, USAID, etc. She is part of networks like the One Billion Rising (OBR) and Academic Stand Against Poverty (ASAP). In India she has partnered with NGOs like Centre for Advocacy and Research (CFAR), Punjab Voluntary Health Association, National Foundation of India (NFI), Population Foundation of India (PFI), ActionAid India, Plan India, etc. She has conceptualised tele-serials on sex selective abortion and rights of the girl child and scripted a film on child sexual abuse called "Chuppi" for UNIFEM. She was involved in drafting of the policy on Girl Child and Women in Rajasthan and Odisha. She took the issue of conditional cash transfer policies and its relevance for and impact on girl child to the Academic Forum of IBSA summit, Brasilia, 2010.

III. Prayatna Educational Society (unpaid internship)

(www.p-e-s.in)

i. Overview

The NGO was founded in 2003 by Preeti Bhutani for the promotion of the French language in India. It is based in North Delhi (near the North campus of Delhi University).

ii. Programs

The organization is engaged in the following activities:

- Language training for teachers. The training is organized in various Indian cities and offers French language teachers training in new methods for the teaching of the French language in India’s school system.
- Arranging and participating in inter-school competitions on French language and culture in the NCR and elsewhere in India. These linguistic contests are organized at a state and national level and have an annual participation rate of approximately 5000.
- Arranging workshops for school students on a given theme.
- Producing and printing a variety of French language learning books for school students and exercise books as well.
- Arranging and accompanying Indian students on study tours of France (immersive learning)
iii. Internship information

- The organization has had Indian university student interns.
- Cultural and linguistic training is provided to interns and supervision is standard (assessing students’ written work and teaching, if they are involved in teaching classes in French; assessing for demonstration of initiative, interpersonal skills, and so on).
- Interns are involved at all levels at which the organization functions (described in the previous section). It should be noted that interns may participate in the preparation of the state and national competitions as well as in the design of the quizzes. They may participate in the design and publication process of new language text books as well as in planning and conducting workshops for school students.
- Since Prayatna works in collaboration with the Alliance Francaise in Chandigarh on some projects, interns may have an opportunity to work with the joint team on a given project.
- Interns will need to find their own accommodation. Ms. Bhutani might be able to assist in locating appropriate accommodation.
- Assistance in getting from Indira Gandhi International Airport to the intern’s accommodation will be provided.
- Since the NGO is geographically close to Delhi University, student accommodation is easy to find. Interns can opt for ‘paying guest’ accommodation (typically in a house with other students). The rates for the following types of (furnished) accommodations in the neighbourhood are provided below:
  - Single room without air-conditioning: Rs. 7000-10,000/month
  - Single room with air-conditioning: Rs. 10,000-11,000
  - Complete floor of an apartment building with 3 bedrooms and 2-3 bathrooms with a total floor area of 135-160 sq. yards: Rs. 30,000-35,000
MUMBAI

IV. At Majlis (Unpaid Internship)

(The information is taken from the “About Us” section of the Majlis website)

i. Overview

Majlis’ (association) is a broad based pluralistic organisation encompassing two centers, Legal and Cultural. The founding members of Majlis have been a part of the women’s movement in India since 1980. Majlis started in 1991 as a response to a growing need for lawyers with a gender perspective who are dedicated to evolving innovative legal practices to defend women’s rights. Headed by Adv. Flavia Agnes they are an all women team comprising of lawyers and social activists. Their agenda for social change is – quality legal representation for individual women in court, changing mindsets through advocacy and training and evolving gender just ideology through campaigns and interventions.

Majlis is registered as a Society and Public Trust, No. F-14669 (Mumbai), with an exemption from income tax under S. 80 G and an FCRA Registration.

Majlis Legal Centre has been engaged in a comprehensive women’s rights programme since 1991.

Mission Statement (also copied from their website):

- Mission: To help women across class and community access justice by creating a culture of rights.
- Objective: Under the overarching theme of access to justice for all women our objectives are:
  - To ensure the rights of individual women are protected by providing legal counseling, legal representation and innovative legal strategies
  - To ensure there is a culture of rights by educating and disseminating information about laws and legal avenues available to women.
  - To ensure that no discriminatory laws against women are passed by initiating public interest litigation and policy level interventions.

ii. Internship Information

For the application form as well as testimonials by former interns please visit http://majlislaw.com/en/top/majlis-and-you/work-with-us/interns/. Please note the following:

- Minimum internship placement for international students at Majlis: two months; Majlis’ preference is for three months.
- Workplace hours: from 10 am to 7 pm
- Sample tasks: litigation, drafting, case work support, training and developing training modules, research, and communication
- Accommodation: the organization does not handle accommodation requests. Students should check the YWCA and YMCA websites for possible leads on accommodation. A
Google search will also provide students with a list of hostels in Mumbai along with evaluations of the hostels posted by international students and other travelers.

- There is a fee payable to the NGO to cover the use of facilities, mentorship, and supervision. It is approximately $100/month.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS PLANNING AN INTERNSHIP VIA OIN**

- Your home institution will require you to sign its “Informed Consent” and/or “Waiver of Liability” form. This is standard practice for off-campus activities.
- In addition, you will be required to sign a similar form which OIN will provide you once you have been accepted and placed.
- Students are responsible for purchasing additional health insurance (as per the liability forms) if the internship is not a compulsory element of their program. (Each university will have a list of recommended health insurance companies. Students should check with the International Office at their home institution)
- Please check the following document posted on the OIN website for information about India’s Visa requirements, about arriving in India, and so on. ([Information for Ontario Students](https://uwaterloo.ca/international/go-abroad/stay-safe-while-away/guidelines-safety-student-abroad-programs)). If you are planning on staying in India for more than six months, you will need to register at the FRRO (more information in the document mentioned above).
- Students are strongly recommended to consult the following website, which offers valuable safety information. It is a University of Waterloo website: [https://uwaterloo.ca/international/go-abroad/stay-safe-while-away/guidelines-safety-student-abroad-programs](https://uwaterloo.ca/international/go-abroad/stay-safe-while-away/guidelines-safety-student-abroad-programs).