

Interested in International Development? Intern at an NGO in India this Summer!

Center for the Advanced Study of India (CASI) in partnership with Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group offers internship placements for Penn students:

- 10-12 week internship in an urban setting in India's capital, New Delhi
- Work to develop Chintan's waste management initiatives into sustainable enterprises
- Help with assessment of current systems, and identify ways to improve documentation and capacity, financial flows and efficiencies
- Work with local Delhi entrepreneurs and individuals involved in the informal recycling trade

Why This Internship?

This internship invites students to help Chintan develop its waste micro-initiatives into sustainable profit-making enterprises that benefit wastepickers in New Delhi. Chintan is looking to create a replicable model using lessons drawn from its experience, so that it can make a larger impact with a larger number of beneficiaries. While the interns are free to select their own approach, some suggested areas are: assessments of current systems; and identification of gaps in services, documentation and capacity, financial flows and efficiencies. This internship is an opportunity for Penn students who are eager to work in India, to have a hands-on sense of key issues in development such as microfinance, urban planning, and environmental impact.



What Do the Travel Funds Cover?

- CASI will provide up to four (4) Penn students with \$3,000 each, to use toward a roundtrip[international economy airfare, in-country travel and room and board expenses in Delhi for participation in the summer 2009 internship program
- Chintan will arrange accommodations for interns during their first week in Delhi at a guest house near its South Delhi office and will assist them to secure accommodations in South Delhi for their 10-12 week stay.

Who Can Apply?

- Penn undergraduates, preferably sophomores and juniors
- Penn graduate students who can clearly demonstrate how this internship is integral to their academic career
- Fluency in Hindi is a plus

How to Apply

What is Required?

- A **completed online Common Internship Application** available as of **February 3, 2009** through the **Penn Office of International Programs (OIP) Web site**. For instructions and the OIP Common Application, please visit please visit the [International Internship Program \(IIP\)](#). The Common Application will list other Penn internship programs. Please make sure you select the **CASI-Chintan** internship as your preference on the application.

Deadline

- The **online Common Internship Application** is **due on Monday, February 23, 2009 by 11:59 pm EST**.
- Two recommendations are required, out of which one must be by a Penn faculty.

Selection Process

- **Finalists will be interviewed during the week of March 2, 2009.**



About Chintan

Chintan is a New Delhi non-profit that addresses issues of urban waste management and environmental and social justice. The organization's entry point is solid waste, because, along with water and energy, waste management is one of the biggest challenges any Indian city faces. A special characteristic of the urban Indian dynamic is the work of hundreds of thousands of informal sector waste-recyclers: pickers, buyers and reprocessors. They bear the brunt of a city's consumption and offer it critical recycling services.

Chintan addresses the issue of livelihoods in its Scavengers to Managers program, in which it seeks to create sustainable livelihoods. One of its initiatives is to provide waste management services to residents (by picking up their waste from the doorstep and helping them minimize the time spent disposing it as well as reducing illegal disposal) and picking up waste from offices and malls. When looking at waste, Chintan looks beyond discarded materials to the thousands of men, women and children involved in picking up recyclable waste and selling it into the recycling trade.

For more information on Chintan and its work, visit: <http://www.chintan-india.org/>



About Delhi

Delhi is India's capital city. It is a cosmopolitan and exciting place to live. Over a thousand years old, the current city of Delhi has been built over the site of seven older cities. The metropolitan area of Delhi has a population of about 11.5 million. Hinduism is the religion of 82% of Delhi's population along with large communities of Muslims (11.7%), and Sikhs (4.4%). Hindi is the principal spoken language in Delhi, although it is easy enough to get by with English. Delhi's summer temperatures are high, averaging 90 degrees Fahrenheit in July.

South Delhi

Delhi is a large city with different neighborhoods that are very distinctive from each other. South Delhi is home to Chintan's office. This part of the capital city is especially cosmopolitan. It is organized into many residential colonies and local markets. Since it was built over ruins of previous cities, South Delhi hosts several of Delhi's historic monuments including Humayun's Tomb, Siri Fort and the Qutub Minar. It is not unusual to accidentally come across ancient unmarked minarets, tombs, and even a palace. South Delhi has a convenient, if crowded, public transport system with frequent buses linked to a well connected metro. Three wheelers (autos) and taxis, though more expensive, are easy to find.



CASI is an academic research center at Penn's School of Arts & Sciences. Founded in 1992, it is recognized as a national resource and the sole research institution in the US dedicated to the study of contemporary India.

For more on CASI, visit: <http://casi.ssc.upenn.edu>

Chintan Environmental Research and Action Group is an Indian non-profit whose mission is to work towards social and environmental justice as well as a dignified existence for wastepicker communities, particularly of women and children, to help them move towards better education and employment opportunities, and to advocate for sustainable consumption and safer toxics free materials as a means to safe and environmentally sustainable products which do not affect the health of any as also of the wastepicker communities or impact the common environment of all.

