Digital Humanities Research Assistant (Remote)
Part-time, Summer 2020

Duke AHEAD, Duke University School of Medicine, and Duke Global Health Institute

This is a paid opportunity (pending funding) for a graduate student research assistant, previously trained in digital humanities and/or documentary studies, to participate in the creation of a digital archive and online exhibition of the Duke University School of Medicine’s annual Medical Student/Faculty Show. All work can be conducted remotely. This assistantship follows a year-long research project, funded by Duke AHEAD, to study the impact of the 2020 Medical Student/Faculty Show using a mixed methods approach. Our focused research question has been: what are the impacts of the annual Medical Student/Faculty Show on the academic performance (students), psychosocial well-being, resilience and attitudes of student and faculty participants and non-participants?

In addition to academic student performance data, this research project generated numerous contemporary digital artifacts throughout the project-year and connected the research team to archival materials from past shows, including materials from the Medical Center Archives. We seek a research assistant to help us assemble a digital archive and create an online exhibition showcasing the decades-long history of this annual Medical Student/Faculty Show. If possible, we would also aim to create a short documentary video describing the history of the show and highlighting the research process we have undertaken in pursuit of our current academic study.

We seek a graduate student to commit to up to 20 hours per week for the summer of 2020 (May 15-August 15).

Supervisors

Kearsley Stewart, Duke Global Health Institute and Department of Cultural Anthropology
Leonard White, School of Medicine, Department of Neurology

RA duties and responsibilities:

Work up to 20 hours per week; however, hours are very flexible. Weekly WebEx meetings. Duties: Lead and execute all aspects of research, documentation, curation, and implementation necessary to create a digital archive of research materials, an online exhibit and possibly a short film.

Specific skills required:

Experience with digital humanities is required. For example, novel approaches to digital storytelling combining 2020 ethnographic data (interviews and direct observation) with archival materials from Duke Medical Center Archives (photos and ephemera); creative ideas for digital museum exhibits (OMeka and metadata skills), etc. Experience with website design is required (HTML, WordPress, etc).

Previous experience with qualitative data analysis, such as interviewing, memoing, codebooks, coding, and applied thematic analysis is desirable. In addition to digital humanities computer skills, the research assistant will also need familiarity with productivity software such as Microsoft Office (proficiency with Word and PowerPoint) and research software such as Zotero, DukeBox, GoogleDocs. Previous experience with NVivo software is desirable.

Strong written and oral communication skills. Excellent time management and organizational skills. Ability to work well both independently and as a team member. Fluency with other online technologies such as social media platforms (Twitter, Instagram) would be an asset.

Academic outputs and dissemination:

Our expectations are that the research assistant will be a co-author on all products related to the digital component of this research project. Please consider joining our team! We look forward to speaking with you!