GLOBAL RESEARCH ON INCLUSION AND DISABILITY RESEARCH ASSISTANT (RA) POSITION

Position Description
The Global Research on Inclusion and Disability Research Lab is looking for a RA to help with several projects implemented by the Lab mostly in Afghanistan and Pakistan. One project, Children’s Resilience in Afghanistan Study (CRAS) implements psychosocial interventions and community-based system dynamics (CBSD) with parents, children and teachers. CBSD is a participatory research method to help understand complex problems using a feedback perspective. This approach promotes ownership and involvement in the change-making process to enhance educational inclusion and learning outcomes. The Education Equity and Quality in Afghanistan and Pakistan (EEQAP) is a social accountability intervention – combined with inclusive education training – engaging parents, teachers, and children to promote education quality and inclusion. The project also uses community-based system dynamics (CBSD). Finally, the Cognitive Impairment Disorders in Afghanistan, Pakistan and South Africa looks at aging prevalence and its links with social determinants of health and quality of life. We also conduct Group Model Building workshops with older adults in the three countries to understand factors influencing quality of life of older adults.

The lab is looking for graduate students to assist in: 1) reviewing reports written by the Afghanistan and Pakistan teams during group model building (GMB) sessions, focus groups used to facilitate understanding of a system through model building, 2) reviewing psychosocial intervention reports conducted with children, teachers and parents for CRAS and 3) data management and analysis from primary data collection.

Degree Program and Interests
Any graduate student in the fields of public health, social work, or social policy with interests in:

- Community-based system dynamics (CBSD)
- Education equity in low-income and conflict areas
- Disability research and inclusion

Duties and Responsibilities
- Assist in report revisions from group model building (GMB) sessions conducted in Pakistan and Afghanistan;
- Assist in report revisions from psychosocial interventions in Afghanistan;
- Conduct survey data analysis and data management tasks such as cleaning, reorganizing, and matching;
- Contribute to research publications and reports;
- Help with other projects as needs arise.
Skills and Qualifications

- Understanding of causal loop diagrams (CLDs) and system dynamics - or willing and eager to learn and apply in GMB sessions
- Understanding of psychosocial intervention in schools’ environment
- Familiar with R - or have a passion to learn about R in the process of data management and analysis
- Able to work independently, dependable, empathetic, and have cultural humility

Compensation & Time Commitment

This position will be paid according to the rates of Washington University. Able to commit 15 to 20 hours a week of work until December with possible options to transition to new projects and tasks.

Application Process & Timeline

If you are interested in this position or would like to know more, please email Yiqi Zhu at zhuyiqi@wustl.edu and Dr. Jean-François Trani at jtrani@wustl.edu. To apply please submit your cover letter and CV to Yiqi Zhu and Dr. Trani.

Applications are reviewed and accepted on a rolling basis until all positions are filled. You will be informed about the next steps within a week after your submission.