**DESCRIPTION OF RESEARCH PROJECT/INTERNSHIP**

Sponsor: Princeton Environmental Institute

Position number: To be completed by PEI

Organization/research group name: H1YOU2

Project title: Assess viability of rural greenway network

Project summary:
Despite an abundance of open space in the rural US, access to the natural environment in rural communities is not equitably distributed. Much of the landscape is privately owned, limiting access especially for low-income residents who do not own property. Lack of outdoor access reduces opportunities for physical activity, thereby contributing to obesity and other chronic health problems. A rural population deprived of connection with the environment also becomes alienated from it, thus precluding long-term community resilience. This project will address these challenges in Warren County, NC--a rural, economically distressed community near Durham--through a partnership with a local non-profit organization focused on sustainable rural development (Working Landscapes). The project will explore the potential of developing a greenway network - using abandoned rail corridors and other routes - as a way of reconnecting the community to the land.

Role and responsibilities:
As part of this project, the PEI intern will:
- Research literature on the benefits of increased access to the outdoors and analyze local data on community goals and needs, producing a two-page white paper to be used in making the case for greenways in rural communities
- Map existing environmental access/physical activity assets and deficits in the county using ArcGIS
- Assess potential trail corridors, factoring in property ownership patterns and desirable routes
- Engage selected key stakeholders in exploring the possibility of greenway network development, including representatives of town and county governments as well as interested citizens
- By the end of the semester, prepare information about greenway opportunities for presentation to local stakeholders and solicit public feedback on this information at a community forum.

Website (if available): workinglandscapesnc.org

Faculty sponsor/host (name/department): Talia Young, EEB

Email contact: talia.young@princeton.edu

Location of internship: Warrenton, NC

- **Note:** If this internship is located in a country that appears on the [U.S. Department of State Travel Warning List](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/travel-warnings.html), final candidates will be instructed to request and receive University approval to travel to that country before participation in the internship program is confirmed.

Weekly stipend: $500

Number of internships available: 1

Proposed start date (mm/dd/yyyy): 6/15/2017

Total number of weeks: 8

Proposed end date (mm/dd/yyyy): 8/15/2017

- **Note:** The funding awarded for this position is for full-time work, 35 hours per week minimum, for a period of no less than 8 contiguous weeks.
**INTERNSHIP SUPERVISOR**
Name and title: Talia Young, postdoctoral fellow and Gabriel Cumming, director, Working Landscapes
Email: talia.young@princeton.edu  Phone: 848-228-2542

**EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**
Academic background: Interest in rural development, environmental justice, greenway access and/or development, land use planning

Technical skills: GIS skills or willingness to quickly learn basic analytic approaches

Language fluency: English

**OTHER**
Prerequisites / training:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical demands:</th>
<th>None</th>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment requirements:</td>
<td>Intern will need a car</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visa(s) required?</td>
<td>Yes ☐ No ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immunizations required?</td>
<td>Yes ☐ No ☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research permit/pass required?</td>
<td>Yes ☐ No ☐</td>
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**Priority application deadline:** January 13, 2017
- Applications received after the priority deadline will be reviewed on a rolling basis.
- Unfilled positions will remain open until March 29, 2017.

For more information and to apply, visit the Princeton Environment Institute website: