

2016 U-M Research Assistant Opportunity

Topic: Analysis of the University of Michigan's non-licensed procurement for Social Responsibility

Call for Applications: Deadline January 11th (Midnight)

Eligibility: U-M undergraduate (at least two years of completed college education) and Graduate level students

About the Research Assistant Position:

Last year, the University of Michigan *President's Advisory Committee for Labor Standards and Human Rights* (PACLSHR) held a Symposium on Global Human Rights and Labor Standards. The opening speaker, Michael Posner, former US Assistant Secretary of state for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, strongly encouraged universities to not only look at their licensed goods when it comes to labor standards and human rights, but to broaden their perspective to non-licensed procurement. Non-licensed procurement refers to food, computers, construction, and other good and services supplied to the university.

Taking Michael Posner's words seriously, the University of Michigan has created two RA positions (1 graduate and 1 undergraduate) to investigate the topic of non-licensed procurement in the context of labor standards and human rights. This project includes three areas of research and deliverables:

1. An analysis of the University of Michigan's current non-licensed goods spend by category
2. Preliminary recommendations within these current spend areas that could be potential areas of hot spots for labor standards and human rights issues with recommendations for focus by the University
3. Benchmarking other universities with a qualitative and quantitative study to understand their current governance and processes around non-licensed procurement
4. Final deliverable is a presentation to the PACLSHR and a final report

Duration of Research Assistant Project: January 18, 2016 - April 22, 2016

Required Time: 10 - 15 hours per week

Funding: University RA Rates Apply

Supervision: Professor Ravi Anupinidi and Kelsea Ballantyne (PACLSHR Members)

Desired qualifications / skills:

- Graduate student or Undergraduate student with at least two years of college education completed;
- Basic computer skills (excel, word, outlook, internet, etc.);
- General business understanding – successfully completing basic business classes;
- Interest in Corporate Social Responsibility/Human Rights/Worker Rights;
- Ability to communicate at a high level through phone calls, presentations, reports
- Ability to project manage and create and stick to a work plan
- Ability to see the strategic big picture and pay attention to details

Application process: There is no application "form" as such. Applicants are to submit materials by email to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu.

1. An up-to-date CV/resume
2. A 150-300 word statement in PDF format explaining your interest in this research assistant position.
3. Current transcripts. Wolverine Access copies are acceptable for this purpose.

A faculty subcommittee of the PACLSHR will review applications. Applicants are encouraged to email questions not answered in this announcement to PACLSHRApplications@umich.edu.