Global Feasibility Study Graduate Researcher
Entrepreneur Acceleration in Latin America Project
Social Enterprise @ Goizueta

Apply By November 30, 2015

Social Enterprise @ Goizueta (SE@G) at Emory University focuses on applying business acumen and market-based solutions to achieve meaningful societal impacts. By actively working across the spectrum of for-profit, nonprofit and hybrid organizations, our faculty and students become participants in important conversations and debates that are taking place in business schools around the world.

SE@G seeks to recruit two teams of graduate students each (from various U.S. and Latin American universities) to help design and implement Entrepreneur Acceleration in Latin America Project. The project will be conducted in partnership with Technoserve (TNS) in the spring and summer of 2016.

Entrepreneur Acceleration in Latin America Project
A carefully-selected and trained teams of graduate students will be deployed to study critical questions relating to entrepreneur acceleration in four Latin American countries (Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador). The project will leverage quantitative data collected from programs to isolate how early-stage entrepreneurial outcomes through the acceleration process vary systematically across participating countries and then design and execute a multi-method study to better understand the drivers of these cross-country contrasts. In the end, this study will:

1. document the various effects that TNS accelerator programs have on the performance of early-stage ventures working in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and El Salvador;
2. document important differences – or contrasts – in these effects across different program treatments and across countries;
3. interpret these contrasts with reference to revealed differences in the countries’ entrepreneurial ecosystem conditions; and
4. use these observations and interpretations to (a) provide insights to the broader community of developing-world accelerator programs; and (b) propose improvements to the TNS programs working in Latin America.

Participant Expectations:
In the course of this structured research experience, participating students can expect to:

- deepen their understanding of economic and social conditions in four Latin American countries;
- develop a companion understanding of the challenges associated with encouraging entrepreneurship in these countries;
- gain exposure to the entrepreneur accelerator programs run by TNS (and others);
- learn (actively) about conducting high-quality research into questions central to current economic development agendas;
Applying business acumen & market-based solutions to achieve meaningful and enduring societal impacts.

Join our team.

- work with like-minded graduate students from around the United States and Latin America;
- meet (through the interviews) individuals who are developing or supporting sustainable and scalable businesses in Latin America;
- participate in research trips to two Central American countries (either Nicaragua/El Salvador or Guatemala/Honduras) for ~10 days in early August 2016 to conduct structured interviews with program and sector stakeholders; and
- present the report and its findings in a forum (in either NYC or DC) that includes TNS supporters and other sector stakeholders.

Requirements:
We are looking for graduate students (pursuing an MBA or similar degree) who:

- are fluent in English and Spanish;
- have demonstrated interest in entrepreneurship and economic development;
- have experience working on research projects;
- agree to participate in a series of spring 2016 meetings (every 3 weeks; evenings; 90 minutes);
- can commit to working 4-5 hours per week (around jobs or internships) in June-July;
- have 10 days free in early August to work on the ground in two countries;
- can commit to working 4-5 hours per week (around jobs or classes) in August-September; and
- can agree to pay their own airfares and insurance up to $1,500 (all ground costs will be covered by the program).

Pay / Compensation:
This is an unpaid research position. However, SE@G will cover all ground costs for research trips to Central America (scheduled for August 2016)

Application Instructions:
Interested individuals should complete the following by November 30, 2015:

1. Complete brief online interest questionnaire at https://emory.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cxcjEIT6H6DkKk5
2. Submit any questions to Michael Belles at mbelles@emory.edu.

Learn more about SE@G at www.socialenterprise.emory.edu