

Email Subject: WC Open Source Anticipatory Intelligence Research Teams - Notice of Recruitment

Greetings,

Washington College is embarking on a groundbreaking pilot program with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) and is going to form three student research teams to assist NGA with a program on Open Source Anticipatory Intelligence. This is the first time that NGA has undertaken a research project with an undergraduate college or university and we want to do a fantastic job for them.

You might ask “What is Open Source Anticipatory Intelligence (OSAI)”? Basically the idea is to use open sources of information to conduct research on foreign countries in order to be able to anticipate future areas of concern. This is a branch of what is known as geospatial intelligence, or GEOINT. NGA, along with the rest of the nation’s intelligence agencies, have recently been focusing a lot of their resources on hot spots around the world and haven’t been paying much attention to areas that are calm now. During the recent earthquake in Haiti, this lack of intelligence became apparent as there was little recent information collected on Haiti. Our OSAI project will help NGA fill in some of the gaps in their understanding of the world.

The country we have selected for our pilot program is Peru. The topics for our three teams are demographics, water resources and health related issues, and energy and food resources. Leading the teams will be Dr. Andrew Oros, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies, and Director of International Studies, Dr. Aaron Lampman, Anthropology Program Director and Assistant Professor of Anthropology, and Stewart Bruce, GIS Program Coordinator. Each team will have three student members reporting to one of the faculty listed above.

We want you if you are interested in doing international research, are ready to commit the time needed to complete the project, and are perhaps looking for some stellar experience for your resume. While there are no guarantees, participation in the project should make you much more competitive for internship opportunities at various intelligence agencies. And some travel funding will be available for students to attend the international GEOINT Symposium this October in San Antonio, Texas. (<http://geoint2011.com/about>)

If you think you would like to embark with us on this research project then please complete the attached application and forward to Stewart Bruce at sbruce2@washcoll.edu. If you have any questions please contact Dr. Oros, Dr. Lampman, or Stewart Bruce.

Deadline for applications are Friday, September 9th at 4:30 PM. All student team members must be able to commit to a series of weekly meetings with their faculty team leader as well as for all three teams to meet on Tuesdays at 4:00 PM on these dates:

9/13/, 9/20, 10/4, 10/25 with draft final reports due on 11/29.

We look forward to reviewing your applications to join us on this adventure.

Stewart Bruce
GIS Program Coordinator
Washington College