

Technology with a Human Face

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Subject: Technology with a Human Face Student Internship Search

<u>Technology with a Human Face</u> (THF) is looking for passionate interns to help safe drinking water reach people in rural communities of India, especially areas impacted by arsenic in West Bengal. The research work at <u>Lehigh University</u> under <u>Dr. Arup SenGupta</u>, native Kolkatan and Jadvapur gradute, has led to the creation of <u>LayneRT</u>, which has been widely used throughout the Southwest USA and South/Southeast Asia to provide water free of arsenic. Members of THF have worked in West Bengal for the past 15 years to provide community-scale arsenic treatment systems. Pictures of some of these units can be found in <u>galleries</u> on the THF website.

THF is now looking to sell household domestic filters, or point of use (PoU) filters, to households by partnering with a local Kolkatan company, <u>Puro</u>. As an NGO, THF has previously operated as a non-profit pursuing community-scale water treatment facilities, but THF is now shifting to a more market-based approach for individual consumers.

Operations are changing and there is room for people from a variety of backgrounds. THF internships are not biased for students based on their stream, grades or backgrounds because the work THF does is very dynamic and success won't be linearly related to typical examinations.

Business-minded or entrepreneurial students can be directly involved with sales. Creative types can be involved with marketing campaigns, public relations, etc. People with strong English writing skills can do grant writing for funding from different organizations. Students with technical backgrounds can be involved with treatment design. Socially minded individuals will be regularly going to villages to talk with Gran Panchayats, micro finance institutions, local business owners, families, etc. for market surveys on how best to move forward.

Ideally a student would be willing to be involved in several of these roles with the end goal being more people in rural communities drinking safe water. A brief flyer and application for the internship can be found here. As THF is a small NGO working in rural development monthly stipends will be around 5000 Rs+ food and travel expenses. THF is flexible in terms of the length of the internship and working hours. THF would encourage students to work side-by-side with us part-time when classes resume.