



Global Community Fellowship

Position Description at Parami University

Overview

The Global Community Fellowship plays a critical role in supporting capacity-building, education, and training initiatives of local institutions designed to address specific needs and challenges in the local community. By working directly with communities, Fellows gain hands-on experience with organizations in Asia using creative and innovative methods to address critical social challenges while applying their knowledge and skills to further grassroots social change.

Post Summary

There will be four Fellows working as Program Progression Advisors at Parami University. In this role, the Fellows will provide support to university students regarding their academic plans, career goals, and assist students in meeting their graduation requirements, as well as provide tutoring service on an appointment basis. The Fellows will report directly to the Dean of Academic Affairs, but work closely with the Student Affairs team as well.

In this position, the Fellows will have the opportunity to:

- Support Myanmar students seeking US-accredited bachelor's degrees
- Provide opportunities for Myanmar youth to develop the necessary skills to be change agents in their communities

By working with the staff at Parami, the Fellows will have the opportunity to support a rapidly growing liberal arts institution in nurturing competent and skillful future leaders.

About the Partner

Parami University is a high-quality, liberal arts university focused on young people in Myanmar, that seeks to cultivate future leaders and global citizens by nurturing critical thinking, inspiring leadership, and compassionate service. The university started as a pilot institute, known as Parami Institute of Liberal Arts and Sciences in early 2017 to become the first not-for-profit residential liberal arts and sciences university in Myanmar. Parami launched a successful fundraising campaign in February 2020 to build a new campus, but construction was postponed due to the political situation in Myanmar. The decision was made to continue this initiative but as an online institution, licensed in the US to offer both Associate of Arts (2 year) and Bachelor of Arts (4 year) degrees. Parami also entered into an agreement with Bard College to offer a dual degree, so that graduating students will receive both a Parami and Bard degree. Parami

University welcomed its inaugural undergraduate class in August 2022 and will offer two undergraduate majors: 1) Philosophy, Politics, and Economics, and 2) Statistics and Data Science.

About the Location

Fellows will be based in Chiang Mai, Thailand to support their students. Chiang Mai is the current cultural, commercial, and tourism center of northern Thailand and has a population of over one million people. It is approximately 360 km from the Myanmar border. The greater metropolitan area boasts several of Thailand's top universities. Chiang Mai is home to over 100 important Wats (Buddhist temples), a major Buddhist university, and colorful festivals such as Loy Krathong, known for the release of lanterns and krathong or buoyant decorated baskets. The city is considered the coffee capital of Thailand, with hundreds of chain and local cafés to choose from. Fans of spice and early risers can enjoy a bowl of khao soi, a noodle dish found in Northern Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar often consumed in the morning, while night owls can enjoy fresh fruit, street food, and handmade goods at one of Chiang Mai's well-known night markets. The city's expat/digital nomad community is one of the largest in the world.

Position Responsibilities

Parami University (primarily remote, with the possibility of some in-person activities)

- Facilitate academic advising sessions for students on program requirements
- Manage monthly small group advising sessions
- Advise students in one-to-one sessions regarding academic policies, degrees, and general education requirements for degree completion
- Provide one-to-one or group tutoring sessions on academic subjects for university students and provide editorial advising for students' written work
- Host academic-related workshops throughout the school year
- Facilitate discussion sections of a research skills class
- Maintain academic files and correspondence of academic counseling with students
- Assist with other Academic Affairs projects as requested
- Participate in academic integrity procedures
- Consult with Student Affairs team, Registrar, and Dean of Academic Affairs to improve student experiences

Eligibility Requirements

- Academic: At a minimum, completion of a 4-year undergraduate degree by June 2024
- Citizenship: US citizenship or residency not required, but US citizenship may facilitate the visa process
- Language skills: English (fluent), Burmese and Thai not required but basic Burmese/Thai skills and interest in learning the language preferred
- Familiarity and/or experience with the American model of higher education and learning, particularly in liberal arts colleges and universities (as a student and/or working professional)
- Teaching, training, or tutoring experience

- Experience or strong interest in supporting Myanmar's young people

Preferred Qualifications

- Academic Advising and Tutoring
 - Experience facilitating in an online space
 - Experience working with youth or English language learners
 - Familiarity with or willingness to learn advising and counseling techniques
 - Background in liberal arts and science education
 - Experience leading one-on-one or small group sessions that cater to the academic needs of students
 - Experience developing or leading workshops. Potential workshop topics include academic integrity, data visualization, logical reasoning, etc.
- General
 - Demonstrated computer proficiency (G-Suite and other educational apps)
 - Strong organizational skills; ability to work independently and in a team
 - Flexible and able to support with unexpected changes
 - Ability to serve as an effective bridge between multiple stakeholders
 - Strong interest in and/or experience working with social issues in Asia or the US
 - Strong oral and written communicator, especially in cross-cultural contexts; comfortable working with English language learners
 - Familiarity with refugee, migrant, or internally displaced populations, particularly in Thailand

Professional Development

Fellows have the opportunity to develop and strengthen many transferable skills, including:

- Mentorship - Develop peer and expert mentoring relationships with students and collaborators; give feedback, share resources, and connect to new networks
- Facilitation - Design and facilitate training sessions for small and large groups
- Project management - Utilize frameworks including logic models and need-finding tools; help ensure projects reach development milestones
- Cross-cultural Skills - Deepen understanding of social change initiatives in a new cultural context
- Team Development - Support teams in navigating conflict and building effective collaboration practices
- Sustainability - Learn how to think critically about the three pillars of sustainability (people, planet, profit) in the context of social impact initiatives
- Virtual/Hybrid Work Skills - Learn how to build relationships in a virtual and distributed environment; Help teams manage time effectively when accommodating different time zones and work styles; use tools for effective remote work (Slack, content & community building platforms, etc.)