Centre for Global Health Research, Unity Health Toronto

Student Practicum Placement

November 3, 2023

Supervisor	Richard Wen
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Agency	Centre for Global Health Research, Unity Health Toronto
Academic Institution	Toronto Metropolitan University
Duration	January 13 to April 14, 2024 (2 days a week)
Location	209 Victoria St., 6th Floor, Room 678, Toronto, ON

Title	Open Mortality: Automated Spatial Data Aggregation
Role	Spatial Data Engineering Intern
Description	The Open Mortality (OM) project (openmortality.org), led by the Centre for Global Health Research (CGHR) at Unity Health Toronto, aims to empower science for better global heatlh with the world's information on mortality – helping the living, study the dead. Currently, OM provides over 600K detailed and anonymized records on individual deaths in India and Sierra Leone with causes diagnosed by physicians using verbal autopsies. However, OM does not currently offer spatial data to regular users as the records are privacy sensitive and risk identifying the deceased.

The practicum intern will be tasked with spatially aggregate datasets, containing 600K+ records and 500+ variables, on OM to produce anonymized versions of these datasets for regular users, and eventually the public. The intern will be responsible for developing a reusable process for this task, writing code in Python/R to implement this process with the latest stable software libraries, and testing this process to ensure designed functionality.

The intern will gain valuable skills and experience in Python/R, Github, software development, and data engineering to help advance their career. The practicum intern is expected to meet on a weekly basis for guidance and progress updates with the supervisor (in-office preferred), while having the flexibility to work independently in-office or remotely outside of meetings. |