

Dear Nancy,

Man's passage through life is sustained by his pursuit to for knowledge. Digital humanities by its capability to vitalize both computer science and humanities and to bring changes to the actual society, provides the shortest bridge between knowledge and improving lives. I am astounded by its versatile nature, a field that shapes itself to expand knowledge in any form, making science and art both take a fresh look at themselves. In my quest to look for opportunities in such areas of research I found the Berkman Center for Internet and Society while browsing the web. As an undergraduate at IIIT-Hyderabad and enrolled in dual degree with major in both Computer Science and Humanities I have obtained ample knowledge in both fields.

As a fourth year student at my institution I have good knowledge in C++,Python,php,SQL,Javascript.Last year I was selected for Google Summer of Code for Sigmah organization which involved working with php,SQL,Javascript. Along with this I have done course related to Ontology,Economics,Aesthetics,Narratives. I have held the position of Teaching Assistant for System Structural Design and Analysis course , and for Introduction to Humanities course at my institution.

For past two years I have been working on Socionity project(<http://socionity.iiit.ac.in/site/>) as Research Assistant, which aims at creating a crowdsourcing platform for rural heritage for villages in India. By this project we aim to create a rural community of village students who can contribute in collecting rich and reliable information through mobiles applications. Given the discrepancy between urban and rural connectivity levels and challenges associated with reducing this gap, our work seeks to understand the impact of currently available connectivity on rural individuals' use and perceptions of mobile and mobile web. We focus our investigation on the use of mobile in work practices critical to such communities, This criticality lies in knowledge sourcing and utilization from neighborhood.

My 3 years of confluence study has given me insights into both Computer Science and Humanities, and in what ways can they be coupled together for more productive outputs that will help the society. At Berkman Center there is an unique opportunity wherein issues related to Internet and Society both will be at large. With passionate people having diverse ideas around,will help me broaden my perspective on how to approach problems, also provide my own set of ideas which hopefully will be brought into practice. I have also forked the git repository of MediaCloud and h2o, played around with it so as to know about Berkman center products and yes they are cool and awesome tools.

Currently I am doing research in Political economy of Internet wherein I aim to explore Digital Socialism phenomenon that has emerged in the form of open source community and collectivism. Internet as we know it has so many hidden benefits that are waiting to be exploited in a positive sense. There is an urgent need to understand the role of physical community with respect to the Internet, and how to strengthen it through right applications and software design. Social media, social networking has provided a platform for global reforms in the form of communication and revolution. The frantic global rush to connect everyone to everyone, all the time, is quietly giving rise to a revised version of socialism. Berkman center for Internet and Society whose main aim is to study how Internet has changed society and vice versa, will help me with my research and equip me with multiple viewpoints to approach this problem. Berkman center shall expose me to a whole new level of expertise and experience with all the innovative people under one roof.

I am seeking this internship that will utilize my computer scientist as well as humanities skills with opportunity for growth. I hope to hear from you to schedule an interview.

Sincerely,

Pravin Patil