

Field Study and Internship Programs

Four UVA students at IFE

DEBORAH AYRES-BROWN





AML - Archives and Museum of Literature

In her internship at the Belgian Museum and Archive of Literature, Deborah translated the back covers of books from French to English, wrote up descriptions for exhibitions, and processed manuscripts for colleagues. In addition, she also participated in the daily life of the library— receiving book deliveries, re-shelving books, assisting those searching for certain works, etc.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT: An examination of the evolution of official Belgian discourse on the Congo as seen through the literature before and during the zaïrianisation movement.



MYA SINGLETON





CEERE- the European Center for Studies and Research in Ethics + SAGE Laboratory - Work group 2 – Environment, health, science and society

Mya was engaged in a double internship, splitting her time between a research unit and a graduate-level academic unit, both devoted to bioethics, and located in the same building on the campus of the Strasbourg teaching hospital. As a research associate, Mya was involved in a number of projects looking at the bioethics of research projects in biomedicine, attending seminars, learning research methods including for data analysis, etc. Initially Mya focused more exclusively on a new project on never-ending diseases. In particular the project examined a large set of preserved tissue samples containing bacteria from sufferers of syphilis, to see if the reasons some diseases are never conquered is that the bacteria - thought to be stable in certain diseases - in fact changes characteristics over time. The holding is unique in the world, comprising hundreds of thousands of samples covering many decades. Mya's role was to look at the bioethics of using tissue samples without permission, in this case of the descendants. To research the question, Mya became familiar with a wide range of literature as well as bioethical legislation in France, in the US (for comparison)





and new EU directives. She participated in a presentation before the University bioethics committee before the end of her internship. As a program assistant to the director of the European Center for Research in Ethics, Mya had the opportunity to participate in various activities of the Master's degree in bioethics, including introductory exercises in methodology, lectures on bioethics and other activities.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT: In Good Faith: The Effects of a Lack of Informed Consent in the Retrospective Use of Bodily Samples

TRISTON SMITH





PASTT - Prévention Action Santé Travail pour les Transgenres

For his internship, Triston has joined the team at PASTT, an organization that works with transgender, primarily immigrant, sex workers. At first, he spent time familiarizing himself with the many activities of the organization, ranging from social, physical and psychological health and legal services. This has allowed him to assist the directors in administrative work, for example research on the organization's activity report for 2018, a significant collection and analysis of data concerning health screening activities in the previous year (over 400 clients, with 20 questions for each), and updating the website and various communication materials. Triston also assisted daily with the reception at the organization, receiving visitors and orienting them towards the



appropriate people and services. In addition to this, he engaged in preventive work on the field, assisting with health PASTT's mobile screenings and preventive care (Trod and PrEP.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH TOPIC: An analysis of the relationship between intimacy (symbolic, emotional, sexual, forced or paid) and identity.

CLAIRE ELLISON





I-Cube Laboratory, U of Strasbourg - Data Science and AI

Claire worked as an intern in the ICUBE laboratory, an engineering, computer science, and imaging laboratory at the University of Strasbourg, and was assigned to the Data Science team. Claire was tasked with a survey of methods of visualization through clustering. Specifically she analyzed satellite data using tools with which she could generate a timeseries of images through clustering. At the same time she studied a practical application for detecting clear-cutting in forests. Following this initial work, Claire applied these analytic tools to the visualization results while also identifying ongoing problems, with the goal of detecting clear-cutting through changes in images.

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH TOPIC: Visualizing Spatio-Temporal Series: A study of current techniques

