GSR Position (50% Spring 2021) at the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (BIMI)

"Understanding Organizational Inequality in Immigrant-serving Nonprofits"

BIMI is currently looking for a Graduate Student Researcher to work on the "Understanding Organizational Inequality in Immigrant-serving Nonprofits" Project of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (under leadership of PI Prof. Irene Bloemraad). The position is for 50% with full fee remission for the Spring 2020 Semester. The position will start at January 14, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the position and work will be fully remote.

The Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (BIMI)
BIMI advances research, training, and outreach about immigration to inform and transform what we know about migration in California and the world. BIMI is a collective of faculty, students, and researchers at UC Berkeley across different academic disciplines working on immigration. Find out more information [here](https://bimi.berkeley.edu/) (https://bimi.berkeley.edu/)

Project: "Understanding Organizational Inequality in Immigrant-serving Nonprofits"
Researchers who study nonprofit organizations and the welfare state underscore the explosion of a public-private partnership model such that social and human services in the United States are increasingly provided by nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit services are not, however, universally or broadly available. A small literature spotlights geographic inequities in nonprofit services in rural areas and suburbs, especially as low-income residents increasingly move into suburban communities. This project investigates a related, understudied trend in nonprofit inequities, one tied to the ongoing demographic diversification of the country via immigration. Specifically, (i) to what extent do inequities in nonprofit immigrant services exists, and (ii) what drives such inequalities across place and type of immigrant community? To answer these questions, this project will study immigrant services at the organizational level and map service provision in three areas: health care, immigration legal assistance, and refugee resettlement. Encompassing 80 counties in the U.S. Southwest, the research plan entails multiple steps: (1) to build an original dataset of immigrant serving nonprofits in Arizona, Nevada and 49 California counties; (2) to develop a service accessibility index to identify civic inequality through the mismatch between demand and supply of nonprofit immigrant services; (3) to test "demand" theories of the nonprofit sector using demographic data from the American Community Survey on foreign-birth, noncitizenship, poverty, lack of health insurance, and language proficiency at the census tract (or smallest available geographic area): (4) to investigate "supply" explanations of the nonprofit sector by using contextual data on the availability of resources; and (5) to investigate alternative explanations of service accessibility by considering the political legitimacy and mobilization of immigrant communities.

Applications:
Please apply by submitting a 3-page max. CV and max. 1-page motivation letter (outlining interest and skills) to [the online application portal](#) before **Thursday, November 12 at midnight**. Interviews will be held on November 16-20 over video call and selected applicants will be informed by Sunday, November 22.

Tasks
- Identify, retrieve, and clean geo-coded data related to political variables, including proportion of registered Republicans and Democrats, prior election vote-shares for Republican/Democratic candidates, other related electoral outcome measures, as well as data on the prevalence of pro-immigration protests in 2006 across California, Nevada, and Arizona. This data will be used to test political hypotheses for geographic variation in accessibility of migrant services.
- Identify, retrieve, and clean data capturing geographic variation in human capital across California, Nevada, and Arizona. This may include income and unemployment data, as well as the geographic presence (and size) of law schools (to capture the availability of properly skilled volunteers and workers for legal aid clinics).
- Identify, retrieve, and clean data capturing geographic variation in available funding for immigrant serving nonprofits, including local government budgets and potentially the size of philanthropy across California, Nevada, and Arizona.
- Conduct preliminary statistical analyses of the data, exploring distributions, correlations, and checking data assumptions.
- Produce excellent documentation on data gathering, cleaning and preliminary analysis in methodology memos.
- Attend team meetings with Prof. Irene Bloemraad (PI of the project) and Dr. Jasmijn Slootjes (the Executive Director of BIMI).
- Potentially oversee organizational coding conducted by a small team of undergraduate research assistants.

Required skills and experience
- Training and demonstrated practical experience in statistical analysis.
- Demonstrated experience using statistical packages (Stata/R/other)
- Demonstrated experience and comfort with excel or google sheets
- Great organizational skills and attention to detail

Preferred skills and experience
- Interest in nonprofit organizations, immigration and/or the link to politics.
- Experience with geographic data and GIS preferred
- Experience with hierarchical linear modelling/multilevel models and/or spatial models
- Experience writing academic papers

If you have any questions about this position, please reach out to Jasmijn Slootjes, the Executive Director of the Berkeley Interdisciplinary Migration Initiative (jasmijnslootjes@berkeley.edu).