



3 February 2010

Dear Host Family,

GIEU 2010 – South Africa

Project: Vulnerable Road Users and Transportation Systems: The Case of South Africa

Teaching Fellow: Dr. Oliver Page

Each year the Global Intercultural Experience for Undergraduate Students (GIEU) at the University of Michigan (<http://www.gieu.umich.edu/>) sends students to undertake a variety of community based projects around the world. A group of 16 students (11 female and 5 male) led by Dr. Oliver Page will undertake such a tour to South Africa from Sunday 18 July to Sunday 15 August 2010. The proposed tour will last four weeks and will focus on increasing road safety awareness with children, youth and local communities. Two weeks (18 July to 1 August 2010) will be spent in Sovenga/Polokwane (University of Limpopo) followed by two weeks (1 August to 15 August 2010) in Pretoria (University of Pretoria/CSIR). In order to afford students a unique South African experience we are soliciting sixteen families in each location to accommodate one student each for a maximum period of 15 nights.

Requirements (i.e., Homestay Guidelines) are:

- Provide a student with his or her own bed. However, the home does not need to be at all luxurious.
- The family be open to students of different customs, religious beliefs or ethnicity. Students learn the most from families who want to talk with them and will permit the student to participate in family life.
- The family be open to students with basic dietary requirements, e.g., vegetarian, diabetic. The student will be keen to work with the family in food choice and preparation. This will add to the intercultural experience.
- Host families can request a gender preference, i.e., male or female student.
- Host families have access to a telephone/cell phone. Parents of the student may want to contact their family member.
- Access or ownership of a vehicle is not required. Students will be transported during the tour by chartered minibus that will collect and return students to their host families each day.
- Provide breakfast each morning, lunch at the weekends and supper/dinner 3 to 4 evenings per week. At other times students will eat at restaurants. A detailed itinerary is still in preparation and will be sent to each host family.
- Provide a non-smoking environment
- Provide a safe and secure environment for the GIEU student

What we offer you:

- A stipend of ZAR 300 per night per family (total ZAR 4,500)
- A University of Michigan undergraduate student aged between 18 and 24
- An exceptional student who is keen to understand the South African way of life and be an active member of their host family during their stay. Students will be expected to engage in family activities such as shopping trips, sporting events, family reunions, etc.

Students are prescreened for the tour and do not have any criminal backgrounds. However, due to privacy laws in the U.S. there are limits on the personal details of students that can be provided to you without their consent.

Will you or families that you know personally consider being a host family? If yes, please respond to this invitation with your name, student gender preferred and suburb of residence preferably before 1 March 2010. A diversity of families is required in each location in order to maximize the guest student intercultural experience. Therefore families of all types are encouraged to respond. For those families that do not have access to the internet please ask someone who does to respond on your behalf.

If you require further clarification on any point raised, please just let me know.

Regards,



Oliver Page, Ph.D.

Asst. Research Scientist

GIEU Teaching Fellow 2010

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