The BUP Health Informatics program is currently engaged in the following projects that could use support from volunteer research assistants. Individuals with interests in medicine, public health, development, technology, informatics, research, or other related fields are welcome to apply. Volunteers may support one or multiple projects depending on needs and interests. Research Assistants will have the opportunity to be a lead author on at least one research publication related to their main project.

**Peek Vision (smartphone eye exams)**
Peek Vision technology provides people in remote parts of the world with access to clinically approved eye tests to help combat blindness in developing countries. It provides a low-cost device for managing and monitoring the treatment of patients, even in the remotest of settings. BUP is collaborating with Peek on a national implementation of Peek that harmonizes with the Ministry of Health National Eye Health Strategy and National eHealth Strategy. This initiative is in its preliminary stages.

**TV White Space Trial (synchronous telemedicine)**
BUP is collaborating with the Botswana Innovation Hub (BIH), Microsoft East Africa Ltd. and Global Broadband Solution in the roll out of the TV White Space synchronous telemedicine project which seeks to leverage on the allocated but unassigned or otherwise unused TV band spectrum (so-called “TV band white space”) for wireless broadband access in Botswana. The project’s aim is to provide access to healthcare in parts of Botswana currently without access to broadband delivered through such TV band white space technology.

**Wikipedia mHealth**
BUP is also engaged in a Wikipedia mHealth initiative in collaboration with Orange Botswana. In early 2012, Orange announced a partnership with the Wikimedia Foundation which provides free access to Wikipedia for all Orange customers in the Middle East and Africa. This initiative removes the data cost barrier that prevents healthcare providers in low income settings to access health information on the Internet. The aims of this project would be to assess the quality of health information on Wikipedia and to work with local partners at Orange Botswana and the Ministry of Health to design and pilot an initiative to support rural health care providers in Botswana.

**Research Assistant responsibilities:**
- Familiarizing with the functionalities of technologies involved in project
- Supporting testing, research, implementation and training activities related to projects
- Working closely with partners and adapting to project needs.
- Engaging in weekly Skype calls with teams to provide updates and get research mentorship
Ideal candidate will have:
- Strong interests in telemedicine, information retrieval, and/or in health systems research
- Strong interests in mHealth and information retrieval in resource-limited settings
- Excellent communication and organizational skills
- Experience in working in cross-cultural situations
- Comfort using different types of basic technologies and software that support health systems (no technical expertise required).

Expected time commitment: 9+ months in Botswana

Interested Candidates:
Please email a short (no more than 2 pages) personal statement to ryanlq@botswana-upenn.co.bw and ndlovuk@botswana-upenn.co.bw with “Research Assistant Application: [Your Name]” as the email subject.