



**Summer Travel Grant Application
Summer 2010**

The Open Mind for Africa program in honor of Dr. Louise Shoemaker, Dean Emerita of the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work, builds on the Christian Association's foundation of promoting open minds and working faith. The summer 2010 the program will award travel grants to help underwrite students' service learning experience in Africa.

Dr. Shoemaker has worked in Africa and on behalf of Africans for decades. Working for systemic change, while she was the Dean of the School of Social Work she guided the University of Ibadan in Nigeria as it established its Masters of Social Work degree program. She also opened her home to two Sudanese refugees who became part of her family. A long-time supporter of the Christian Association, she serves as a wonderful example of someone who has lived with an open mind and working faith.

Students are required to participate in **orientation training** prior to travel. Orientation will be jointly conducted by the Christian Association, African Studies Center and Penn Abroad. This education and leadership training will include history and culture, strategic planning, safety and logistics and post-experience planning.

Three students will be awarded travel grants of \$1,000 for summer 2010 service learning experiences in Africa. Grants may be used to underwrite expenses related to traveling and working in Africa. Two grants will be awarded to eligible undergraduate students from the Class of 2011 or 2012, and any graduate or professional student. One grant is available only to a SP2 student. The Open Mind for Africa program offers a unique service experience in Africa. In addition to the orientation training prior to the immersion experience, participants will be involved in Open Mind for Africa development activities upon their return to Penn.

Grant recipients must secure their own service learning experience and make all travel, room and board arrangements. Suggestions and support will be available through the Open Mind for Africa Advisory Board.

There are inherent risks in traveling to and working in Africa. We recommend applicants familiarize themselves with African history, stay up to date with current events, and understand the basic political and social situations. Finally, we encourage applicants to talk with people in the Penn community that have lived, traveled, studied, and/or worked in Africa.

The deadline for the 2010 Program is **February 22, 2010 at noon**. Applications are only accepted in electronic form. Candidates who are selected for an interview will be notified in early March. Please send all application material to upennca@dolphin.upenn.edu. Please feel free to contact Fran de la Torre (215-746-6350 or upennca@dolphin.upenn.edu) if you have any questions.

DEADLINE: February 22, 2010 at noon.

Please note only sophomores, juniors and graduate/professional students are eligible to apply. Preference will be given to graduate/professional students returning to campus in the Fall. In addition, please note that this grant opportunity is for service projects only and not for research.

The Christian Association at the University of Philadelphia
118 South 37th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215-746-6350
www.upennca.org

PART I: PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME:

EMAIL:

CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS:

PHONE:

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

CITIZENSHIP:

BIRTH DATE:

YEAR IN SCHOOL: Graduating May 2010 seniors are NOT eligible.

GRADUATION DATE:

MAJOR(S):

PART II: BACKGROUND AND RÉSUMÉ

- As a participant for the summer 2010, will you commit to taking a leadership role in the Open Mind for Africa program development during the 2010-2011 academic year? YES / NO
- Do you anticipate or have any plans to study abroad during the Fall 2010 or Spring 2011 semester? YES / NO
- List all relevant extracurricular activities in which you participate. Include brief summaries about your role in each. Please indicate if you hold any leadership positions in any of these activities.
- List any honors or awards that you have received.
- List your educational background with school, degrees received, fields of study, and dates attended.
- Please include any foreign experience you have had. Specify each country, precise period of stay and purpose (e.g. study, travel, armed forces, living with parents, etc.)
- Please list any other awards, scholarships, and/or grants for which you are applying.
- Please attach a copy of your current résumé.

PART III: SHORT ANSWER AND ESSAYS

1. Please describe your proposed African experiential service learning opportunity. Be as specific as possible.

No word limit.

2. What does promoting open minds and working faith mean to you? How does your proposed experience relate to these ideas, specifically within the context of the Open Mind for Africa program?

500 Word Limit

3. Please describe and reflect on a cross-cultural experience you've had. What challenges did you encounter? How did you overcome these challenges? What challenges do you anticipate with working in Africa? How will you approach these challenges? How will you overcome them?

500 Word Limit

PART IV: LETTER(S) OF RECOMMENDATION

Applicants are asked to submit 1-2 letters of recommendation from professors, supervisors, peers, etc. Please have all letters of recommendation emailed to upennca@dolphin.upenn.edu with the applicant's name in the subject of the email.

PART V: ESTIMATED BUDGET

Please provide your estimated expenses for all aspects of your trip. Include how you will be financing your trip (above this potential travel grant).

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME IN APPLYING. PLEASE HAVE ALL APPLICATION MATERIAL SUBMITTED TO upennca@dolphin.upenn.edu by February 22, 2010 at noon.