Help Wanted -- Undergraduate Research Assistants

Faculty Member and email: Thomas McDow (.4)

Research topic /area: History of Medical Schools in India/British Empire

When will the URA be needed?
(Suggested time commitment: A total of 20 hours of work for each credit hour taken)

  _X_ Autumn, Second Session (Begins October 16) (1-2 credit hours)
  _X_ Spring Semester (1-3 credit hours)
  _X_ May Term (1-3 credit hours)
  ___ Summer Term (1-3 credit hours)

Job description: I am beginning a research project on an Indian doctor who graduated from Bombay's new medical college in the 1860s. The college was founded in the 1840s to train doctors for the Indian Medical Service. The goal for a student research assistant would be to help establish the background and context for medical education in India during this period. This may be particularly appealing to students who have an interest in the history of medicine or the history of empire, but anyone who would like to know more about the nineteenth century would be a good match. Work on this project could be for this fall, next spring, on in May.

Desired Qualifications: Self-starter, curious, problem solver, good communicator. Experience with primary source research a plus, but not a necessity.

Educational Outcome(s) for the Student: This is a chance to work with primary sources and gain a mini-expertise on the history of imperial medical schools. Students could turn their work on this project into a paper or thesis, and it would also lend itself to presentation at the Denman forum or other research venue. I am happy to help a student write a proposal for summer funding to carry out similar/related research in archives in London and/or Bombay that could build their own research portfolio and/or thesis project. Broadly speaking, I would welcome the opportunity to work with a motivated student and turn this into something useful for them.
What the student should submit in order to apply: please write me a letter/email explaining your interest and what you would hope to gain from this experience.

Application review by faculty member will begin around what date? October 3 (and ongoing).