

Alyne Cristina Figueiredo Goncalves (afigueiredogoncalves@middlebury.edu)
Box 2475
Middlebury College, VT
March 19, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to apply for the position of GIS Support Summer Intern at the Taos Ski Valley, which I learned about through the geography department and through Middlebury's career center.

One of the many aspects that drove me to apply for this internship is that it would offer me the opportunity to practice and improve my GIS skills in the with direct application of the tools, outside of academia, which would be a big step outside of my comfort zone from which I would learn immensely.

So far I have mainly used GIS in the context of social justice and of vulnerability analysis which are great and important areas of study that genuinely interest me and that I wish to continue doing, but they involve working with data that can be found online and has been generated by tertiary institutions. I have never collected the data that I would need to work with or worked directly in the place where the data was collected. I think it would be positively challenging to learn to do that and the applications of such a skill could be vast.

I was also really drawn by the potential to work with the Forest Health Initiative and the mapping of glade cutting boundaries. I have always known that I wanted to be an environmental studies major but I only recently found that I also wanted to be a geography major and even more recently (two semesters ago) I understood that GIS was a tool that I not only did I take pleasure in learning about and improving myself in, but also a tool that had immense potential in the large field of environmental studies. Unfortunately I have never quite had the chance to merge geography and work outdoors which is another passion of mine.

My most significant GIS work so far has been my independent study that has been a crucial time for me to learn how to use GIS to move from a question to an action plan that could provide me with answers. I was specifically attempting to understand, from a decision-maker's perspective, how spatial information can be understood and used, especially if coming from different sources, more specifically, how best to compare vulnerability indexes and make sense of them. From this project not only have I become more proficient in the use of spatial-analysis software (and taught myself to use Quantum GIS) but I have learned how to work independently from a syllabus and to own my GIS learning. It has also taught me about the importance of being organized, meticulous in the use of spatial data and on the importance of creating clear metadata and of keeping track of workflows either for future reference or for someone else's use in case they might build upon the work I did. This semester I am taking a cartography class, which has been helping me immensely with understanding how to design and communicate information effectively with maps. I am also taking an Open GIS course where I am learning how to correct faulty data and how to run large operations using Spatialite (using SQL language). I look forward to being able to put these skills to use.

Working at the Taos Ski Valley would be a great match for my interest in the outdoors and in GIS and an ideal way to spend my summer and improve myself, while contributing to a project that is larger than the work I would do for it. I can best be reached by email or at my cell phone, (802) 458 7314 should you have any questions. I look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,
Alyne Cristina Figueiredo Goncalves

ALYNE CRISTINA FIGUEIREDO GONCALVES

Date of birth: 6 May 1993

Nationality: Cabo Verdean

Email: afigueiredogoncalves@middlebury.edu

Education

Middlebury College (2014-present, Middlebury) Liberal Arts degree, Environmental Studies joint Geography major, Film minor.

African Leadership Academy (ALA) (2012-2014, Johannesburg) took A2 level courses as well as African studies and Entrepreneurship classes.

Institution Notre Dame (2010-2012, Dakar) was awarded the Senegalese baccalaureate upon completion of secondary education with mention for best international student.

Institution Immaculee Conception de Dakar (2005-2010)

Programs

MiddCore (2016)

Intensive summer program based on acquisition of Entrepreneurship and problem-solving skills for the workplace and for independent projects.

Environmental Creative Writing (2015)

Summer project based in Alaska focused on the honing of creative writing skills in relation to environmental problems.

NATIVE digital marketing program (2013)

Intensive 3-day program introducing students to the digital media strategy of NATIVE, a South African digital marketing company.

Experience

AMKA Africa Conference Organizer (2015, 2016, 2017)

researched and contacted speakers for the Middlebury College held conference on Africa, worked on conference logistics and marketing.

Professor Assistant (2014-2016) taught cabo-verdean creole to a research professor (Fernando Rocha) as part of his research.

Circulation Desk Assistant (2014-present) open and close library without supervisor and assisted library patrons in finding and using library resources.

Coalition-Builder for the DivestMidd (2015) linked the movement to other stakeholder groups on campus to represent a broad spectrum of voices to the divestment movement.

CMO (Chief Marketing Officer) of GreenDorm (2013-2014), a diverse pan-african student-run nonprofit enterprise promoting sustainability and environment-friendly practices on campus as well as conducting environmental research.

Student Ambassador (2013-2014) interacted with guests and donors giving them tours of campus and having meals, giving them a glimpse of the ALA experience from a student perspective.

Co-founder and manager of Docinhos (2013-2014), a student operated and student-run bakery.

Peer Counselor (2014) was in charge of working and following through with a diverse group of eight students to ensure that they have a support system on campus throughout their first year at ALA.

Member of the production crew and Tamasha (events organizing group on campus) (2013) learned and practiced setting up and using audiovisual material (lights, sound, etc.)

Skills

- Proficient in Microsoft Office suite and Google Drive suite
- Well versed in use of Adobe Premiere. Intermediary competency in Adobe photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and iMovie.
- Intermediary competency in GIS (geographic information systems) and mapping and base skills in QGIS.
- Fluent in speaking and writing in **French, English** and **Portuguese**. Conversational in Spanish and fluent in Cabo-Verdean Creole (mother tongue).

Dear Mr. Hegman,

My experience as a senior Geography major has given me the tools and skills to be highly qualified for an internship in GIS. Through GEOG120, GIS for Environmental Management, independent senior research, and being a GIS lab monitor/TA, I have refined my GIS skills, practiced problem solving, and shown my desire to learn new skills and work independently. Currently I am using GIS to do my thesis research on development patterns of Houston, Texas, and their effects on the impact of Hurricane Harvey. This has given me experience creating my own databases, preparing data, working with Microsoft access and SQL, and independently conducting my own GIS research. This shows my initiative to learn new tools, as both Microsoft Access and R Studio were completely foreign to me before this project. Although I do not have experience in Python, I am excited to learn new tools and develop my GIS skillset further. Last summer I did research for asylum immigration cases at Alaska Immigration Law Center. This gave me experience writing reports, doing research for a company, and working with other members of the firm to develop immigration cases that best served the customer.

In addition to the GIS classes mentioned above, I have also taken multiples classes on resource management, geology, and environmental studies. These classes, being highly trained in GIS, and my love for working outside make me an ideal candidate for a GIS internship at Taos Ski Valley. I feel that working for Taos Ski Valley would be a wonderful experience and opportunity for me to apply the tools I have gained at Middlebury College, further develop these skills, and to aid in the expansion Taos Ski Valley.

Kind regards,

Ann Penelope Spencer

Penelope Spencer

11000 Vosikof Place, Anchorage, Alaska, 99507

804 384 3337 annpenelopespencer@gmail.com

EDUCATION

Middlebury College

- Bachelor of Arts candidate, Geography, Minor: Studio Art. May 2018
- GPA 3.5; Dean's List last four semesters.
- Computer Skills: Proficient in ArcGIS Desktop 10.3: Spatial Analyst, 3D Analyst, ArcScene; Microsoft Office Suite; Adobe Illustrator; Photoshop; Light Room, Microsoft Access, Database Management, Abacus Law, and Immigration Pro.

Family Partnership Charter School, May 2013

- Graduated Valedictorian
- Activities: Volunteer for Equine Assisted Therapy Alaska, Varsity Cross Country Runner and Nordic Skier.

Experience

GIS Lab/Teacher's Assistant (Present)

- Providing ArcGIS assistance to students in entry level GIS classes.
- Demonstrates knowledge of ArcGIS.
- Demonstrates ability to teach and work with other people.

Alaska Immigration Law Center – Internship (Summer of 2017- Winter 2017)

- Legal Assistant
- Research for immigration cases
- Demonstrate filing and organizational skills
- Customer service
- Demonstrate knowledge of immigration law and desire to make a difference.
- Demonstrate excellent writing and communication skills.
- Demonstrate ability to do secretary work.
- Knowledge of Abacus Law and Immigration Pro.

Rockin- B – Riding Club (Summer of 2015, 2016)

- Camp Counselor
- Assistant Organizer for day activities
- Riding instructor

Nanny (2014- 2016)

- Both in Alaska and in Vermont working with 5-8 year olds
- Demonstrating responsibility, level headedness, and patience.

Cashier at Middleway Café (2014)

- Worked at the front taking order from customers
- Demonstrate ability to work quickly and efficiently.
- Demonstrate ability to work well with people.

Kineret Grant-Sasson
336 Lake Ave
Newton, MA, 02461
(617) 721-0144
kgrantsasson@middlebury.edu

Dear TSV selection committee,

I hope all is well. Growing up in rural Vermont and in the deserts of Israel, I came to see maps as not only a source of infinite curiosity but as a necessary means to sustain the kind of lifestyle I desired: one of constant adventure and exploration. Maps provide a visual representation of the world before me and of the world unseen. To be able to create maps to stimulate the curiosity of others, let alone provide needed information, would be a great honor.

Last semester, I declared a Geography major at Middlebury College. While I flirted with Sociology, Philosophy, and Religion, Geography proved the most exciting as it integrates theoretical analyses and processes with empirical data-based analyses. I hope to use my background in GIS and geographic theories to study social justice and equity issues through a special lens. The intersection of environmental and social justice issues is of particular interest to me, as we know that climate change impacts the most disenfranchised in our world most drastically. None of these issues can be disentangled from their geographic roots. All social, economic, and political processes take place on this earth which is heavily impacted and shaped by its geographic features. Understanding how the contours of the earth shape our lives is crucial to all social progress.

Taos's commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship drew me to this internship. It is the only ski resort in the world to achieve B Corporation status. Given the economic viability of so many similar sized resorts, Taos's pledge demonstrates a sincere commitment to its values. Your fair labor practices and commitment to honoring the diversity of the community in your staff is honorable. During the school year, I regularly volunteer with a homeless shelter in town. This experience has given me great insight into the interactions between institutions like Middlebury College and the community in which they operate. A positive relationship between these two entities is crucial.

At Middlebury, I have been fortunate to take the foundational GIS course as well as a number of other classes in the discipline. I have a strong knowledge of ArcGIS software as well as Adobe Illustrator and Microsoft Office programs. I also have a substantial background in geographic theory, which is always exciting when applied to new places. I have spent a very large amount of my life in the outdoors, both on the East Coast and in Israel, but have yet to travel farther west in the US. Given the opportunity, I would love to explore Taos and the surrounding areas and contribute any knowledge I have of GIS programs and mapping tools. The preservation and sustainability of outdoor recreation areas is hugely important to me, so I hope that I can be a part of your team.

Thank you for your time,
Kineret

Kineret Grant-Sasson

MC Box 3497, Middlebury, VT 05753
(617) 721 - 0144 kgrantsasson@middlebury.edu

Education

- Middlebury College** Middlebury, VT
Candidate for Bachelor of Arts, Geography, Global Health, Philosophy May 2020
GPA: 3.67
Language Skills: Fluent in Hebrew
Computer Skills: Excel, Word, PowerPoint ArcGIS, ArcMap, PC and Mac software
Activities: Charter House Coalition, Stares on Stairs Sexual Assault Prevention, Mountain Club
- Bina Secular Yeshiva** Tel Aviv, Israel
Gap Year Program, Israeli Military Preparation May 2016
Gann Academy Waltham, MA
High School Diploma May 2015
GPA: 3.89
Activities: Co-founder/President of *Femininjas*, Social Action Liaison, Writing Tutor

Experience

- Charter House Coalition** Middlebury, VT
Volunteer at Warming and Family Shelters 2016 - present
- Prepare and served meals
 - Help staff with daily administrative duties
 - Engage with residents and provide emotional support
 - Entertain children and help with schoolwork
- The Hawthorne Bar** Boston, MA
Hostess Summer 2017
- Attended to daily needs of the restaurant
 - Maintained positive relations with guests
 - Managed reservations and events
- Middlebury Chocolates** Middlebury, VT
Barista Summer 2016 – Spring 2017
- Prepare and serve delicious chocolates and coffee
 - Attained and employed strong interpersonal relationships with coworkers and costumers
- Middview Orientation Trip** Adirondack Mountains, NY
Wilderness Leader Fall 2017
- Attained CPR and Wilderness First Aid certification
 - Led group of eight first-year students on a four-day backpacking trip
 - Worked with my coleader to facilitate positive and safe group dynamics
- Winter Seminar Team** Tel Aviv, Israel
Chair Winter 2016
- Organized and facilitated two-week seminar trip for sixty Israeli teens
 - Led team of five peers during preparation and completion of project
- Diller Teen Fellowship** Boston, MA
Junior Counselor Spring 2014-Fall 2015
- Planned and facilitated leadership and Jewish identity programing for twenty teens
 - Acted as mentor for fellows throughout their two-year fellowship
 - Led fellows on three-week Israel seminar trip

March 19, 2018

Bill Hegman

GIS Specialist

315 McCardell Bicentennial Hall

Middlebury, VT 05753

Dear Professor Hegman,

I am writing to **apply for the summer internship offered in Taos Ski Valley (TSV)**. I have had a great deal of opportunity learning and developing my analytical and mapping skills through a number of GIS courses in the geography department. I have completed Fundamentals of GIS, GIS: Environmental Science & Management, an independent study on web mapping, and am currently on the GIS and the Developing World class with Professor Joseph Holler.

Outside of academics, I have some experience working with non-profit organizations. Last summer, I interned at Middlebury Area Land Trust and helped them maintain their trails every morning. I also mapped and created an interactive map of their trails on ArcGIS Online. Since then, I have become fascinated with interactive maps and started exploring web mapping through an independent study under your supervision where I learned the basics of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. As a result, I was able to create another interactive map of the Moosalamoo trail system using Mapbox. Furthermore, I learned the basics of CARTO by volunteering to create an interactive alumni map of Filipino United World College scholars.

I believe that my work and volunteer experience, academic background, and my propensity for personal initiative will make me a valuable intern at Taos Ski Valley. I would welcome this opportunity to become part of the organization's team and to work alongside with the other GIS intern.

Sincerely,

Maria Celes Abragan

Maria Celes L. Abragan

MC Box 2013, Middlebury, VT 05753

(802) 771-5574 • mariacelesabragan@gmail.com

GIS Portfolio Website: <https://mariacelesabragan.wixsite.com/celestina>

EDUCATION Middlebury College, Middlebury VT (December 2018)

Bachelor of Arts Candidate: Joint Major in Geography and Environmental Studies

Relevant Coursework: Fundamentals of GIS, GIS: Environmental Science & Management,

Independent Study: Introduction to Web Mapping, Zero Energy School Design Project,

GIS for the Developing World, Terrorism: Mapping Terrorism in East Asia

Middlebury School of the Environment, Middlebury VT (June-July 2016)

Relevant Coursework: Environmental Analysis, Environmental Pollution, Systems

Thinking Practicum

Li Po Chun United World College, Hong Kong (May 2014)

International Baccalaureate Diploma

SKILLS Proficient in ArcGIS Mapping Software and ArcGIS Online

Fundamentals of QGIS, Mapbox, CartoDB, Adobe Illustrator

Introduction to HTML, CSS, JavaScript, SQL

EXPERIENCE UWC Philippine National Committee, Philippines (September 2017-Current)

GIS/Data Manager Volunteer

- Created an alumni network map for UWC Scholars in Philippines
- Regularly manage and update alumni and current scholars' information

Green Mountain Family Campground, Bristol VT (August 2017)

GIS/Cartographer Volunteer

- Carried out an on-field survey to collect GPS data
- Created a trail system map using ArcGIS and Adobe Illustrator

Bristol Initiative, Bristol VT (August 2017)

GIS Volunteer

- Carried out on-field survey to collect GPS data of the 4-mile proposed trail for the newly founded Bristol Trail Network (BTN)

Middlebury Area Land Trust, Middlebury VT (June-August 2017)

GIS, Cartographer & Assistant Trail Manager Intern

- Created a web map that connects the Trails Around Middlebury (TAM) to the North Country Trail (NCT) and the Green Mountain Long Trail in Vermont.
- Created georeferenced trail maps that can be used on a GPS tracker mobile app
- Assisted the trail manager in keeping the 18 miles long trail in good condition.

Box 4294 Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753

March 19th, 2018

Mr. Bill Hegman
GIS Specialist/Teaching Fellow
Middlebury College Department of Geography

Dear Mr. Hegman,

When I first saw the internship announcement for the position in Taos Ski Valley, I was thrilled to realize that GIS work could include such a diverse set of skills ranging from the technical to the physical. In many ways I find myself trying to strike a balance between the mental and the physical in everyday life, and I am excited by the chance of a professional opportunity that may allow me to continue.

Let me assure you that I am qualified for this position. I have worked intensively with GIS for a couple of years now, both in structured classes, in independent research, and professionally as an intern for Vermont Legal Aid (VLA) during the summer of 2017. I feel comfortable with ArcGIS and I would have little trouble learning open-source software as well, I am sure. Furthermore, I am competent with R, Stata, Java, and Python. I feel confident in my conceptualizations of data and the way it interacts and is transformed in different manipulations. This comfort continues to be augmented through my Data Science class (MATH216) in which I am currently enrolled. In addition to my technical skills, I have excellent writing and communication skills that allow me to translate the nitty-gritty of technical work into layman's terms. I have found these communication skills to be paramount both in my internships with VLA and Upper Missouri Waterkeeper, Inc., as well as in the Middlebury College Dining Services environment where I have been employed for the last four years. Finally, I am a hard-worker (sometimes to a fault) who will push himself to deliver the products that are needed on time in an organized fashion.

Thank you so much for taking the time to entertain my candidacy for this position. I am excited by the prospect of such fulfilling, excellent work. If any additional information is required regarding my skillset, my experience, or my record, please do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to further communication in the near future.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Schmidt', with a stylized, overlapping loop structure.

Patrick Schmidt

Patrick Schmidt

Box 4294 Middlebury College; Middlebury, VT 05753
406 539 7327 pschmidt@middlebury.edu

EDUCATION

Middlebury College

Middlebury, VT

- Bachelor of Arts candidate, Geography, May 2018
- GPA: 3.80; College Scholar (highest academic honor) all semesters
- Language skills: Proficient in oral/written Spanish, basic French abilities
- Computer skills: Python; Java; ArcGIS (ArcInfo) Desktop 10.5: Spatial Analyst, 3D Analyst, ArcScene; Microsoft Office Suite; Adobe Illustrator; Stata; R; Zotero

Siena Italian Studies, Fall 2013

Siena, Italy

- Spent three months in intensive Italian immersion, with classes in art history, music, and food history

Bozeman High School, June 2013

Bozeman, MT

- GPA: 4.2 weighted, Honors Diploma
- Activities: President, National Honor Society; Speech & Debate; Chamber Orchestra

EXPERIENCE

Vermont Legal Aid Inc., GIS Intern (Summer 2017)

Burlington, VT

- Produced maps that measured and demonstrated the impact of the organization statewide
- Aggregated Vermont Legal Aid data and U.S. Census data with spatial datasets for analysis
- Used ArcGIS and the Microsoft Office suite in a professional environment to produce reports for legal teams

Upper Missouri Waterkeeper Inc., Data Intern (Summer 2016)

Bozeman, MT

- Aggregated water quality data from Montana Department of Environmental Quality, USGS, and Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- Communicated effectively with supervisors to ensure quality of product
- Created a twenty-three-page document summarizing the health of the Missouri River and related watersheds

Research Assistant for Guntram Herb, Professor of Geography (Spring 2017)

Middlebury, VT

- Worked with a team to build a WordPress website to display research
- Sourced data for ArcGIS Online maps, and displayed those maps on the website

Research Assistant for Jessica L'Roe, Assistant Professor of Geography (Summer 2017)

Middlebury, VT

- Manipulated World Bank survey data using Stata
- Maintained an extensive Zotero document library

Teacher's Assistant for Oceanography Course (2015-present)

Lake Champlain, VT

- Supervise operation of sonar-based instruments (multi-beam, CHIRP) and mechanical sediment corers, and navigational equipment aboard 48' research vessel the RV Folger
- Evaluate work and provide feedback for improvement of data collection, analysis, and presentation

Prep Cook & Waiter, Middlebury College Dining Services (2014-present)

Middlebury, VT

- Provide excellent customer service to a wide variety of individuals
- Demonstrate an ability to work quickly under pressure while producing a high-quality product
- Communicate effectively with supervisors and customers

Dolci Restaurant Club, Co-President (2016-2017)

Middlebury, VT

- Organize nine, eighty-person restaurant-style meals over the course of the semester
- Schedule and oversee a team of three to ten cooks and waitstaff
- Assess the club's funding and authorize allocative decisions

Barista/Baker at the Leaf and Bean (2014)

Bozeman, MT

- Utilized high-level customer service and effective communication skills
- Created high-quality drinks quickly and efficiently
- Synthesized high-volume orders quickly and adapted appropriately
- Assumed senior role after several months, trained new employees

Independent Violin Teacher (2009-2013)

Bozeman, MT

- Managed independent studio of seven violin students, ages five to fifteen, for weekly lessons.
- Scheduled students, communicated with parents.
- Advised students on future options.

ADDITIONAL

- Honors: Eagle Scout, Troop 677, Bozeman, MT
- Skills: welding (TIG, MIG, ARC); construction (framing, roofing, painting, wiring, remodeling)