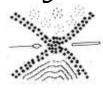
Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring



Language and Culture Centre P.O. Box 2420, Kununurra WA 6743 - Australia <u>www.mirima.org.au</u>

Special Internship at Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring

Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language and Culture Centre (MDWg) is an Aboriginal organisation seeking to maintain, preserve and revitalise the Miriwoong language of the East Kimberley region in Western Australia.

We are currently looking for a linguist intern to join us for a special task over a longer period of time. The successful candidate will spend up to 12 months at MDWg to focus on the development of digital language learning resources for the Miriwoong language. In close collaboration with linguists and Indigenous language workers he/she will assist with the creation of language lessons based on a syllabus of grammatical structures. The completed lessons will eventually be rendered into electronic learning resources.



The intern will get insight into all other operations of the language centre, including language documentation, literacy training, language teaching, grammar research and related areas.

In brief - What we expect from applicants:

- A commitment to stay for a minimum of 6 months; a longer stay of up to 12 months would be preferred.¹
- A background in linguistics or language learning and the ability to acquire basic knowledge of an Australian Aboriginal language
- Confidence in working with PC applications (MS Office, audio/video editing; desirable: website management) or willingness to acquire such skills
- A demonstrated desire to support the revitalisation of an endangered language
- An open mind and strong respect for a culturally diverse environment and the ability to communicate and interact harmoniously as part of a team
- A formal application including the following: cover letter stating the preferred starting date and suggested length of stay; CV showing any previous experience you may have had in

¹ International applicants please note that Australian visa conditions for a working holiday visa allow a maximum stay of 6 months per host organisation, which includes volunteering. However, an overseas intern may be considered in the event that there is a shortage of suitable Australian based applicants.

the field of linguistics, fieldwork or work with Indigenous people; anything that would help us get to know you better

• Willingness to be partly self-funded.

What we can offer:

- A unique multicultural environment and the opportunity to contribute to a successful language revitalisation program
- Being part of an ambitious team composed of linguists and language workers and the possibility to present at our *Mirima Linguistic Forum*
- Participation in excursions and getting to know all of MDWg's activities
- An air-conditioned office space with computer access
- A modest financial subsidy towards living expenses (for details please enquire); logistic assistance in finding accommodation, if required
- You will live in one of the most fascinating regions of Australia, a major tourist destination for travellers from around the world. The East Kimberley offers National Parks, rivers, lakes and untouched wilderness with countless outdoor adventure opportunities.



The natural beauty of the East Kimberley region

Challenges you might expect:

- Climate: during a year's stay you would experience the full range of the Kimberley climate including extreme temperatures, tropical storms and possible road closures. And yes: we are REMOTE (Darwin is the closest major city, about 850 km from Kununurra).
- Community: be prepared for the fact that many members of the Indigenous community live under challenging socio-economic conditions which may sometimes impact on work activities.
- Living costs: due to our remoteness living expenses are higher than average. Expect to spend most of your subsidy on housing, which may result in financial hardship. For more details about potential costs please contact us.

A selection process will apply. A desirable starting date would be in early 2014.

Please submit your applications by 10 March 2014. MDWg reserves the right to fill the position as soon as a suitable applicant has been found.

We recommend that you contact us with a brief expression of interest before applying formally.

<u>Contact:</u>

Knut J. Olawsky, Senior Linguist/Manager E-mail: <u>info@mirima.org.au</u> MDWg website: <u>www.mirima.org.au</u>

