

Focus Areas and Keywords

CGI U's **focus areas** and **keywords** guide conversations within the CGI U community and allow students and alumni members to form strategic networks around common issues. While focus areas are broader in scope and help inform topical opportunities, keywords are used to appropriately pair students with Commitment Mentors, identify featuring opportunities, and have targeted discussions about specific challenges. *Please note that keywords are subject to change in efforts to reflect and support the needs of the CGI U community.

Focus Areas

Education

A new generation of innovators is leading initiatives to expand access to education, improve existing education systems, better integrate technology into classrooms, and provide critical higher education opportunities to economically disadvantaged groups. These movements define and improve the central roles that schools, universities, and technology can play in providing academic knowledge, values, and skills for economic and professional development.

Environment and Climate Change

Empirical scientific records provide abundant evidence of the dire consequences that climate change is having on both human societies and ecosystems. Throughout the world, a groundswell of eco-entrepreneurs and young leaders are expanding the renewable energy economy, creating green jobs, and accelerating progress towards a sustainable future.

Poverty Alleviation

Poverty is both a cause and consequence of inadequate education systems, scarce job opportunities, social exclusion, political instability, violent conflict, food insecurity, demographic pressures, and human migration. Students and universities are tirelessly developing and scaling new innovations in the fields of economic empowerment, affordable technology, and agricultural development that will enable millions around the globe to lift themselves from poverty.

Peace and Human Rights

Human rights abuses stemming from a wide range of geopolitical, military, and cultural conflicts are a scourge on the modern world. Many young leaders are taking action to address these issues by spearheading awareness campaigns, building communities of dialogue on and off campus, and bringing together diverse ethnic, religious, and political groups to forge effective, long-term solutions.

Public Health

Our increasingly interconnected world enables health risks to spread quickly across borders, linking the health of the world's communities more closely than ever before. While many of the world's biggest public health challenges disproportionately affect disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, students are at the forefront of the movement to expand access to essential services and medicines by exploring innovative ways to promote health and prevent disease in both developed and developing regions.

Keywords

Access to Health Care

Access to Health Care commitments work to assure that a specified population receives the mental or physical health care for which there is a recognized need.

Telehealth

Telehealth commitments deliver health-related services and information via electronic information and telecommunication technologies. It allows long-distance patient and clinician contact, care, advice, reminders, education, intervention, monitoring, and remote admissions.

Population Health Management

Population health management commitments focus on identifying health trends among patient cohorts and developing strategies to mitigate risks, improve clinical outcomes and health metrics, and otherwise address health needs within a group- including awareness and outreach.

Agriculture

Agriculture commitments seek to equip communities with the tools, infrastructure, education, and/or skills needed to successfully farm and produce food. Typically, these commitments are implemented to provide communities with food security, jobs, resource autonomy, and/or economic development through agriculture.

Agricultural Education

Agricultural Education commitments work to create opportunities for careers and economic empowerment through the application of agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

Arts and Media

Arts and Media commitments seek to use artistic (e.g., music, dance, drama) or media (e.g., film screenings, production) projects as a tool for community empowerment, education, therapeutic recuperation, or advocacy.

College Readiness

College Readiness commitments work to both prepare students for a college education and assist college applicants as they navigate the application process.

Conservation

Conservation commitments focus on a wide range of ecosystem protection, education, and restoration projects including biodiversity and wilderness preservation, clean water, and reforestation.

Sustainability

Sustainability commitments focus on supporting ecological, human, and economic health and vitality through projects that coordinate actions and investments to improve present and future survival and well-being outcomes.

Criminal Justice and Civic Engagement

Criminal Justice and Civic Engagement commitments advocate for civil liberties and human rights within the criminal justice system and the building of strong institutions. These commitments work towards prison reform, civil advocacy, policy creation, and community service.

Dialogue and Conflict Resolution

Dialogue and Conflict Resolution commitments promote peace, meaningful engagement, understanding, and political participation. Through their work, they aim to transcend stereotypes and bridge divisive gaps along gender, ethnic, national, generational, political, and racial lines.

Disabilities

Disabilities commitments work to enhance the lives and communities of people with both physical and mental disabilities through engagement, support, awareness campaigns, services, therapy, and a wide range of tools for handicap accommodation and access.

Disaster Response and Resilience

Disaster Response and Resilience commitments focus on helping regions prevent, prepare for, and recover from natural disasters. They create programs, infrastructure, and/or advocacy campaigns to help communities recover from or decrease the threat of future disasters.

Economic Empowerment

Economic Empowerment commitments aim to equip low-income individuals and communities with the tools, skills, and knowledge necessary to grow financially and harness entrepreneurship as a tool for poverty alleviation.

Financial Literacy

Financial Literacy commitments aim to educate and teach how to properly apply financial management and planning skills in efforts to help decrease wealth gaps and address issues of poverty and financial fragility.

Educational Access

Educational Access commitments provide the means (i.e. financial, material) and platforms (i.e. infrastructure, technology) necessary for education at all levels.

Girls and Women

Girls and Women commitments work for the benefit of girls and women in a wide range of capacities, from gender equality initiatives to pregnancy clinics, from female leadership programs to sexual violence education and prevention.

Good Health and Well-Being

Good Health and Well-Being commitments provide a wide range of support mechanisms and services to ensure healthy and healthful lives. By incorporating mentorship, training, and leadership development opportunities, these commitments tackle the challenges and underlying stressors that can adversely affect physical and mental wellness as a result of geographic location, learning disabilities, cultural stigmas, or a challenging economic or home situation.

Health Education

Health Education commitments work to educate targeted demographics or populations about issues related to mental and physical well-being.

Housing and Homelessness

Housing and Homelessness commitments aim to assist and support individuals who are either homeless or at the risk of homelessness, while promoting long-term innovations in housing affordability.

Human Injustice

Human Injustice commitments strive to end genocide, violence against children, human trafficking and sexual violence, and combat all types of systemic, political, and domestic violence through awareness campaigns, educational films, and prevention workshops on the issue. Commitments within this keyword also focus on the rehabilitation, reintegration, and humanitarian relief of survivors back into society.

Immigrant and Refugee Populations

Immigrant and Refugee Populations commitments work to benefit populations who have been displaced or have voluntarily fled hazardous homeland conditions through legal assistance, community services, advocacy, and education.

Infectious Diseases

Infectious Diseases commitments are dedicated to fighting the spread of infectious diseases and supporting those affected by infectious diseases. This is accomplished by instituting treatment initiatives, providing affordable health care, launching education programs, and disseminating preventative and protective devices such as mosquito nets to combat malaria.

Literacy

Literacy commitments aim to increase literacy rates and capabilities through education, advocacy, mentoring, tutoring, library construction, book drives, and a wide range of technological innovations.

Nutrition and Fitness

Nutrition and Fitness commitments aim to improve individual health and combat chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease through initiatives such as nutrition education, fitness programs, and nutritious food and physical education development in schools.

Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy commitments work to combat the threat of climate change, pollution, and diminishing fossil fuel supplies by creating, discovering, and investing in renewable energy sources. These commitments also promote renewable energy through advocacy and educational initiatives, or by creating programs in which a school or community can reduce its carbon footprint.

Resilient Communities

Resilient Communities commitments work to end systemic inequities, build opportunities, and challenge social and economic injustices and biases in queer, BIPOC, marginalized and under-represented communities around the world.

S.T.E.M. Education

S.T.E.M. Education commitments promote the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math through advocacy and awareness campaigns, by developing curriculum and technological applications that benefit the field, by using innovative S.T.E.M. curricula to address real-world challenges, and by creating avenues through which a greater number of students can successfully enter into S.T.E.M. fields.

Sustainable Design

Sustainable Design commitments address climate change and work to reduce carbon emissions by integrating energy conservation measures and green design into the existing built environment and ecosystem.

Technology

Technology commitments harness innovation in order to democratize the flow of information, increase connectivity between populations, expand market-based solutions, and deploy a wide range of other sustainable development solutions.

Volunteerism and Service

Volunteerism and Service commitments encourage civic engagement through a wide range of youth leadership and empowerment programs, by working with institutions and businesses to implement volunteering requirements and programs, by connecting disparate groups to one another through internships and service opportunities, and by creating new pathways for volunteer opportunities.

Waste Management

Waste Management commitments find new and efficient ways to utilize and sustainably dispose of waste through closed-loop systems, recycling programs, and a wide range of conservation initiatives.

Water and Sanitation

Water and Sanitation commitments address the lack of access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene, particularly in the developing world. They include clean water initiatives, drought relief programs, and sustainable sanitation infrastructure.

Workforce Development

Workforce Development commitments aim to increase economic development by investing in the workforce through professional trainings, small business support, and a wide range of entrepreneurship incubation and mentorship.

Youth Empowerment

Youth Empowerment commitments work to empower children and teens through leadership summits and other youth advocacy initiatives.

Special Focus (trend-based)

Special Focus commitments are projects developed in response to a sudden challenge that has large-scale, immediate impacts on one or more communities (natural disasters, pandemic response, etc.)

*These Mentors should feel confident with strategies for adjusting to scope changes and rapid response methods and frameworks

- COVID-19 Response
- Substance Abuse Disorders and Awareness