Located on the corner of Vine and 9th street, PCDC stands for 'Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation'. Established in 1966, the goal of this non-profit organization is to preserve, promote, and protect Chinatown as both a residential and economic ethnic enclave. Established in 1966, PCDC originally started off as a group of individuals devoted to protesting against the development of the Vine Street Expressway. The proposed expressway would ultimately destroy one of Chinatown’s most integral community centers, Holy Redeemer Church and School. However, with the united efforts of those living within Chinatown, PCDC was and has been able to prevent this and many other threats to its community, including city-sponsored urban renewal projects and gentrification.

Although times have changed and many immigrants now move directly into the suburbs, Chinatowns continue to act as a touchstone to recent immigrants of all backgrounds. The food and services that can be found there provide a social network for not only immigrants, but also the greater metropolitan regions in which they reside. Young and old, American and immigrant, can all appreciate what these ethnic enclaves have to offer.

In the past two months, I have been responsible for an array of different activities, such as:

- Graphic designing for voting initiative (see examples below)
- Organizing tax filing forms
- Creating registration forms
- Keeping track of Youth Program attendance
- Attend meetings with field supervisor
- Survey Chinatown for existing shops and stores

These activities not only allow PCDC to keep track of who utilizes the resources they provide, but also provides government entities an incentive to fund the corporation.

As with any non-profit group, PCDC requires a lot of its workers. Each of these experiences present an excellent opportunity to learn about how an office is run. Here are some examples of what I have learned:

- Flexibility: As an intern, I was helping with multiple activities at one time. Most of the time, I was under the guidance of my supervisor, but it was not rare for me to be helping another supervisor in a different task.
- Language: People call or come to the office with questions or concerns, and more often than not they are only speaking Mandarin or Cantonese.
- Sociability: PCDC works as a small cohort of people and teamwork is an integral part of the workplace environment.

As a Cities major, it is imperative to understand how physical spaces interact with the people interacting with it. By working with my academic advisor, Professor Gary McDonogh, I was able to learn more about the negotiation of space and identity. This was especially true with regards to Kathryn E. Wilson’s Ethnic Renewal in Philadelphia’s Chinatown.