Graduate Assistantships with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

The University of Utah’s Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism is recruiting applicants for Graduate Assistantships (doctoral level) to begin Fall Semester of 2016.

Applicants wishing to be considered for financial support for a campus visit should submit the following materials before January 15, 2016. Visitation to campus for interested candidates will be scheduled during February.

- A cover letter articulating an area of interest for doctoral studies and research.
- A current resume/CV.
- Names and contact information for 3 academic or professional references.
- Transcripts from the last college/university attended.

In addition to our traditional departmental research and teaching assistantships, we are looking for a student or students to work in the focus areas described on the next page.

Teaching and research assistants generally begin mentored teaching in an integrated block of core courses and progress to independent course instruction. Currently funded research assistants are working with the American Camp Association (ACA), the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS), the Utah Division of State Parks and Recreation, and the Global Change and Sustainability Center (GCSC). Additional opportunities are anticipated for 2016, and many positions offer a blend of teaching and research.

Each position requires 20 hours of work a week for 9 months and includes a monthly stipend, tuition/fee remission (http://gradschool.utah.edu/tbp/tuition-benefit-program-guidelines/), and subsidized health insurance (http://gradschool.utah.edu/tbp/insurance-information/). Exceptional candidates may qualify for additional scholarship monies, additional months of appointment, and/or summer teaching or research opportunities. Travel support to present at professional conferences is available through the Department, the Graduate School, and student associations.

Positions are generally renewable for a total of up to three years, during which time continual registration as a full-time student is necessary and progress toward Ph.D. completion is expected. Applicants must be admitted and enrolled in the doctoral program in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at the University of Utah.

Interested applicants should complete an application with the Department and the Graduate School (http://www.health.utah.edu/prt), as well as send a letter of application and a vitae/resume to Dr. Jim Sibthorp at the email address below. All application materials must be submitted before February 15, 2016 in order to begin the doctoral program and position in Fall (August) of 2016.

Utah is the west at its best! With four distinct seasons, ready access to all outdoor activities including superb skiing at eight world-famous resorts just minutes from campus. Utah is home to five national parks and countless national, regional, state, and local recreation areas. Salt Lake City, with a metropolitan population of 650,000, is the hub of the Intermountain West.

Additional questions, inquiries, and applications for campus visitation support can be directed to Dr. Jim Sibthorp, Director of Graduate Studies, University of Utah, Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, 1901 E. South Campus Dr., Room 1085, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; or emailed to jim.sibthorp@health.utah.edu

For additional information on the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism please visit www.health.utah.edu/prt
Departmental Research and Teaching Assistantship

This assistantship includes teaching core courses in our undergraduate program, and assisting faculty with research, external funding, and writing. Potential applicants should visit our website to review our faculty expertise and existing courses at the undergraduate level. In their letter of application, candidates should comment on how they see themselves fitting in with existing operations and faculty interests. We are especially interested in graduate assistants who complement our existing faculty and help create dynamic departmental synergies. Interested applicants, please contact Dr. Jim Sibthorp at jim.sibthorp@health.utah.edu | 801-581-5940.

Outdoor Recreation Management Assistantship

This assistantship includes coordinating applied research initiatives, including field data collection, analysis, and reporting. Most research projects aim to provide protected area managers with critical data to understand outdoor recreationists’ a) on-site behaviors, use patterns, and desired benefits, and b) perceptions of ecological and social conditions. Research methods usually include visitor surveys, in-depth interviews, GPS visitor tracking, trail and traffic counters, and photographic methods. Assistants will work closely with the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Utah State Parks, or non-profit organizations. Some applicants may be eligible for a funded Fellowship at the University’s Global Change and Sustainability Center. Interested applicants, please contact Dr. Matt Brownlee at matthew.brownlee@hsc.utah.edu | 801-585-7239.

Eco and Sustainable Tourism Assistantship

Responsibilities associated with this assistantship include field projects and/or survey and interview efforts focused on eco and sustainable tourism as it relates to parks and protected areas including: Impact of tourism on gateway communities; the role of concessionaire practice and policies in facilitating sustainable tourism; ecosystem health and quality of life; tourism as a tool for conservation; and, standards and certification in eco and sustainable tourism. Some applicants may be eligible for a funded Fellowship at the University’s Global Change and Sustainability Center. Interested applicants, please contact Dr. Kelly Bricker at kelly.bricker@health.utah.edu | 801-585-6503.

Community Recreation and Sport Management Assistantship

Students interested in community recreation sport management will have the opportunity to teach undergraduate students in topics such as sport trends and sport business techniques. Other responsibilities associated with this assistantship may include assisting with applied research and/or projects related to community youth sport and youth development. Interested applicants, please contact Dr. Mary Wells at mary.wells@hsc.utah.edu | 801-585-7086.

NEW for 2016! Interpretation Specialist Assistantship

In partnership with Red Butte Garden, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism at the University of Utah is pleased to announce a PhD Assistantship focused on interpretation. The assistantship includes planning, developing, and implementing interpretation programs consistent with botanical gardens, museums, and other academic research areas or cultural facilities where interpretation is used to communicate messages, stories, information and experiences. Interested applicants, please contact Dr. Kelly Bricker at Kelly.bricker@health.utah.edu | 801-585-6503.