Graduate Assistantships in Youth Development and Organized Camping

The Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Program at the University of Utah is pleased to announce PhD Assistantships to study the long-term impacts of organized camping on youth and young adults. Two assistantships are available to coordinate and support two related projects. Specific work will entail data collection and management, logistical planning, project and team coordination, and presenting, writing, and dissemination of results. Data collection will involve both qualitative and quantitative approaches over the next five years and will involve campers, parents, and camp staff. The research team is led by Dr. Jim Sibthorp from the University of Utah (PI) and Drs. M. Deborah Bialeschki and Laurie Browne from the American Camp Association. Additional faculty and graduate assistants at the University of Utah in Parks, Recreation, and Tourism; Human Development; and Education are co-investigators. It is expected that students will generate their own research projects synergistic with the larger research plan as a way to support their academic progress.

Applicants wishing to be considered for financial support for a campus visit should submit the following materials before December 15, 2016. Visitation to campus for interested candidates will be scheduled after the first of the year.

- A cover letter articulating interest and skills pertaining to one of the above assistantships
- A current resume/CV
- Names and contact information for 3 academic or professional references
- Transcripts from the last college/university attended

Each position requires 20 hours of work a week for 9 academic months and includes the possibility of employment over the summer months. Each assistantship includes a monthly stipend, tuition/fee remission, and subsidized health insurance. Travel support to present at professional conferences is available through the grant, the Department, the Graduate School, and student associations. Positions are renewable for a minimum of 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.

Utah is the west at its best! With four distinct seasons, ready access to 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, Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, University of Utah, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism, 1901 E. South Campus Dr., Room 1085, Salt Lake City, UT 84112; or emailed to jim.sibthorp@health.utah.edu.