

Advancing Innovative and Transformative Ecological Science Project
Graduate Assistant: Digital research, compile data, and contact institutions and organizations

The GA will help a team of ecological science researchers and educators to grow institutional relationships with professional organizations and institutions that serve Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in ecology and STEM - including historically black colleges and universities, Hispanic serving institutions, Tribal colleges, and scientific societies.

Dates: Jan to Aug 2021

Hours: .25 up to .5 GA + Tuition remission (Spring 21) & 20 hours/wk summer position through Aug 30th, 2021

GA tasks and duties

Data Gathering and Network Building

To increase diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) opportunities for students and postdocs, the GA will gather data per active ecology/environmental professional organizations, field research sites, and Higher Education Institutions close to the field sites thus growing our environmental and ecology research network.

- Dataset 1: Professional organizations in ecology and inter-institution coalitions, partnerships, etc.
 - o Identify and compile data on professional environmental research and ecology organizations, special interest groups (SIGs), DEIA initiatives of said organizations or SIGs, and roles our team members can play by joining these SIGs.
 - o Connect to larger and existing coalitions (such as HACU, SACNAS, HSI STEM Network, NPN) and identify alignment of our activities to their mission and goals, thus increasing our visibility within these spaces.
- Dataset 2: Higher Education institutions that serve marginalized communities in STEM.
 - o Identify and build credible relationships with institutions situated in close proximity to 75 identified ecology field research sites.
 - o Institutions include minority serving institutions (HSI's, HBCU, Tribal Colleges, Predominantly Black Institutions, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Serving Institutions) and community colleges.
 - o Outreach efforts to UROC or SSS offices will be initiated and a robust contact list compiled.
- Dataset 3: Compile demographic data pertaining to ecology field research sites.

Training

The GA will also assist the team in planning and executing anti-racist training for academics and scientists to enable us to create credible and robust pathways for underrepresented populations in ecology and STEM.

- Coordinate DEIA training to align project leadership with best practices in engaging people of color in ecology and academia more broadly.
- Work closely with the Associate Vice-Provost, Diversity and Inclusion on DEIA training for members of grant project efforts.
- Work with the team to start thinking through the design of protocols for field experiences for BIPOC students that create safe and supportive research/field environments.

Other duties

- GA will attend weekly team meetings.
- GA will provide regular updates per data gleaned and training timeline.

Qualifications

- Expertise in education and community building
- Data gathering and Data workbook compilation (ex: Microsoft Excel)
- Strong digital research skills & communication (written, verbal, presentation) skills
- Planning, coordinating, and executing training programs to faculty, staff, and graduate students

Contact: Dr. Sara Chavarria spchavar@arizona.edu for more information and the GA application.