Graduate Student Applied Research Network created

The Office of Community Engagement (OCE) is convening a network comprised of graduate students who conduct applied research in the Tampa Bay and surrounding areas. Too often, graduate researchers are unaware that students with similar interests, who use similar methods, and who focus on the same communities are working right across campus. Our goal is to overcome some of those divides, and help graduate students find peers with whom they can discuss common concerns. We anticipate that graduate researchers will come from across colleges and disciplines. What these students will have in common is an interest in conducting research that addresses real world problems, and doing so in a way that is mindful of the needs and concerns of community residents.

Our office’s role will be to convene a few initial meetings of this group in the Fall 2011 semester, whose members can then determine how they would like to operate. We will also help set up a listserv and share information about workshops, funding opportunities, and interdisciplinary opportunities to publish and present research. If funds allow, we will seek to establish small travel and research expense mini-grant for participating students.

We will kick off the G-SARN with a brown-bag lunch on Thursday, September 29 at 12:30, location on campus to be announced. We’ll provide drinks and dessert.

If you would plan to attend, or are interested in G-SARN but can’t attend on 9/29, please contact either Lance Arney, Dept. of Applied Anthropology doctoral candidate and OCE Graduate Assistant (larney@mail.usf.edu), or Elizabeth Strom, OCE director (estrom@usf.edu).