PhD Research Assistantship Opportunity: Water, Energy, and Culture in the Caribbean

Ph.D. Research Assistantships

The Department of Anthropology at the University of South Florida (http://anthropology.usf.edu) seeks up to three doctoral research assistants to join a team of international sustainability scientists studying environmental perceptions, health impacts, and sociopolitical dynamics associated with the development and implementation of water-energy systems in the U.S. and the Caribbean. Successful applicants will participate in a five-year, interdisciplinary project supported by the National Science Foundation – Partnerships for International Research and Education program, with faculty specializing in ecological and medical anthropology, environmental and mechanical engineering, and marine science. The project explores how sustainable and culturally relevant engineered systems can be established that utilize wastewater as a resource for recovery of water, energy, and nutrients.

The graduate assistantship includes an annually-renewable (based on performance) stipend of $20,000 plus health insurance coverage and other benefits, waiver of tuition and fees, funding for dissertation research, and travel support. Research assistants will pursue an independent research topic, work with project staff and graduate assistants at partner institutions, assist with coordination of the project education plan in collaboration with international partners in Europe and the Caribbean, and carry out field research in Florida, Belize, and/or the U.S. Virgin Islands. Assistants will contribute to the department’s thematic research area in Global Dynamics of Sustainable Resource Management and Economic Development (http://anthropology.usf.edu/research/themes/) and may take advantage of emerging research and educational opportunities at the Patel School of Global Sustainability (http://psgs.usf.edu).

Successful applicants will, in their application to the Ph.D. program in Applied Anthropology at USF, describe their interests and qualifications for carrying out coursework and research in the areas of ecological and medical anthropology, environmental knowledge and practice, global sustainability, community development, and participatory research. An M.A. in anthropology is preferred, but promising students from other fields (including, but not limited to: geography, ecology, and sociology) are encouraged to apply. Final deadline for applications is December 15, 2012. Prior to applying to the graduate program in applied anthropology, interested individuals should contact Christian Wells (ecwells@usf.edu) for more details.