Peer Education Graduate Assistant – OMSA/Emerging Minds Project

Department Description:

The Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA) creates intentionally diverse and inclusive communities, serving as a bridge builder by engaging students and members of the University community of all backgrounds to ensure personal, academic, and professional growth and success. We strive to:

• Foster a campus environment that supports the exploration of varied identities and their intersections
• Increase knowledge and awareness of different worldviews to strengthen cultural competencies and their application in a variety of contexts
• Create opportunities to engage in challenging conversations to advance a more equitable society
• Amplify voices and advocate for and with students from marginalized identity groups, including racial and ethnic communities, to enhance the student experience

In support of this vision, OMSA has created a Peer Education Team, which will be comprised of 16 College student peer facilitators and one Graduate/Professional student Peer Education Graduate Assistant. The Peer Education Team helps facilitate the Emerging Minds Project and any additional training/workshop requests received by the office.

The purpose of the Emerging Minds Project is to create a space for intentional dialogue and reflection between students, focused on issues that are encountered daily in current society. Participants of this program will develop skills for becoming culturally competent leaders by engaging in facilitated discussions on topics related to social justice, including, but not limited to: ability/disability status, religion, language, immigration, social class, access, power and privilege, sexuality, and gender. EMP is led by a group of college students who serve as peer facilitators. EMP Peer Facilitators are students who are trained to facilitate dialogues on social justice, diversity and identity for program participants. As peer educators, EMP Peer Facilitators play an important role in helping members of the UChicago community understand diversity and engage in civil discourse through dialogue-based experiences.

The Peer Education Graduate Assistant for the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs will assist the program supervisor in implementing the program for the 2015-2016 academic year. The graduate assistant will serve approximately 10 hours per week that includes weekly one-on-one meetings, dialogue facilitation, event planning and logistics, and curriculum/program preparation.

Qualifications:

Students who are interested in applying must:

• Be a current graduate or professional student at the University of Chicago in good academic standing at the time of application, regardless of status
• Be available to serve for the 2015-2016 academic year and be enrolled in classes full-time as a student
• Have an interest in diversity, multicultural student populations, higher education, student affairs, and or intergroup dialogue
• Have excellent oral communication skills
• Be comfortable with public speaking and leading a group of college students
• Be comfortable talking about diversity, social justice, and related cultural topics
• Be available to work 10-15 hours each week each quarter
• Preferred: Experience with intergroup dialogue facilitation and curriculum

Position Requirements:

The Peer Education Graduate Assistant will begin in mid-September 2015 and serve throughout the 2015-2016 academic year. She/He/Ze will serve approximately 10-15 hours per week during the fall, winter and spring quarters, including training, dialogue facilitation, program preparation, and peer supervision. In addition, the Graduate Assistant will have the following expectations:

• Attend a mandatory Dialogue Facilitation training session during the fall quarter
• Help plan and prepare topics, speakers, and event logistics for two Community Conversations per quarter, including compiling background information on dialogue topics
• Be available to co-facilitate dialogue sessions for the Emerging Minds Project Community Conversations and potential diversity dialogue sessions for students during critical campus situations, as schedule allows
• Assist with supervision and regular check-ins with peer facilitators, meeting at least twice per quarter with each facilitator
• Complete summary reports to debrief the facilitator supervision with the program supervisor
• Attend check-in meetings with the program supervisor to debrief Community Conversations

Compensation: $13.50 per hour

Application Instructions:
Please visit https://omsa.uchicago.edu/peer-education-team-application to submit a cover letter and resume/CV. Questions? Contact Emy Cardoza, Assistant Director in the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, at ecardoza@uchicago.edu. Applications are due by Friday, May 29, 2015 at 5:00pm.