Graduate Assistantship at the Outdoor Venture Center

The Outdoor Venture Center: The OVC offers outdoor recreation opportunities to both the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) community and the general public. Its trip and workshops program is active and diverse. It averages 40 programs (workshops, trips and classes) a year. The OVC travels throughout the local area and neighboring states including Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana. Locally, there are hills, lakes, rivers, forests, an alpine ski hill, cross country skiing, backpacking, canoeing, sailing and mountain biking. Rock climbing is accessible on weekends. More advanced programming areas are within one day’s drive and suitable for long weekend and weeklong adventures. The program also operates a 3,200 square foot climbing wall, complete with boulder, rappel tower and lead climbing capabilities; and an equipment rental center.

The OVC offers many different kinds of activities including backpacking, canoe and kayak touring, SUPs, rock climbing, cross country skiing, mountain biking, wilderness first aid and leadership training. Many of these activities are led by the director and graduate assistant. Outdoor Venture Center programs are also led by volunteer leaders with leadership training and supervision conducted by the program director and graduate assistant. The OVC is also staffed by 10-15 student employees that work in the rental center and climbing wall, and provide basic climbing and paddling instruction.

The Position: The graduate assistant works with the Assistant Director of Outdoor Programs. Major responsibilities include: leading trips and workshops; assisting in recruiting, selecting, training and supervising student employees and volunteer staff; assisting in planning, promoting, and supervising the OVC trips; assisting with leadership training and development; assisting with equipment purchase and repair; supervision of the HPER building and selected Campus Recreation Special Events.

The OVC wants a person with basic experience and interest in several of the activities which the program offers; most importantly, the Graduate Assistant should treat the position as an opportunity for learning and professional growth. The Graduate Assistant must major in an academic field that is related to the position.

Campus Recreation Building Renovation: Check out recent renovation to the Health, Physical Education and Recreation building at http://www.unomaha.edu/wwwocr/index.php. Included is a greatly expanded OVC rental center and adjacent seminar room.

Qualifications:

- Baccalaureate degree
- Demonstrated leadership and/or teaching skills
- Admission to the Graduate College @ UNO
- Adult CPR & Wilderness First Aid certification
- Personal Experience in Outdoor Pursuit Activities
- (Backpacking required + at least 2 others of those listed above.)

Stipend and Benefits: Approximately $16,781 for the calendar year and a full tuition waiver. Free training in outdoor pursuit activities. Free Wilderness First Aid Certification (including instructor level) or Outdoor Emergency Care (National Ski Patrol Curriculum, similar to EMT-B)
Applications: Applications will be taken on line starting in January 2015 at –
http://www.unomaha.edu/humanresources/employment.php

Select Current Job Openings / Apply in the left options column. Follow the
directions listed on that page about creating an account and look for GRADUATE
ASSISTANT – OUTDOOR VENTURE CENTER.

Attach a cover letter, resume, and list of references with your application. Applications
must be received in the Office of Campus Recreation no later than March 1, 2014. Call or
e-mail Joel Bauch at jbauch@unomaha.edu or 402.554.2997 if you have questions.

Admission to the Graduate College: Admission to a UNO graduate program is a
prerequisite to being offered the position. This can be a long process depending on your
personal circumstances and the graduate school. It is recommended that you start this
process as soon as you apply for the graduate assistant position. Contact the UNO
Graduate College at Eppley Administration Building 202, Omaha, NE 68182 or by phone
at 402/554-2341. Applicants must choose a field of study related to the
Graduate Assistant Position.

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