

The McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement is seeking graduate assistants for the

Catalyzing Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED) Initiative

These competitive assistantships of **\$20,000 per year** are open to graduate students at the University of Mississippi with at least two years remaining in their academic program. Each year, 4 fellowships will be awarded to graduate students with innovative ideas for addressing poverty-related problems in Mississippi. Graduate fellows will serve for two years as graduate assistants affiliated with the McLean Institute and the Innovation Hub at Insight Park.

The two-year period for each project will be used to assist undergraduate Innovation Scholars research a problem identified by the local community and to develop and pilot a sustainable and scalable solution. Graduate fellows will work closely with Dr. Albert Nylander, director of the McLean Institute and Professor of Sociology, and faculty mentors. Graduate fellows will also meet regularly with undergraduate Innovation Scholars working on similar projects or communities. In addition to the fellowship, graduate students will receive summer stipends and travel support for research/planning within the state.

Each year, graduate assistants will affiliate with a community based organization. For the 2015-2017 cohort, graduate assistants will work in a rural county in either the Mississippi Delta or Northeast Mississippi. Graduate students will be required to work an average of 20 hours per week on their project(s). An additional stipend of \$3,000 will be provided to fund summer field work or internships in their affiliated communities.

To apply, eligible students must submit the following to <u>ceed@olemiss.edu</u> by **5:00 PM on March 18**, **2015**:

- A one to two page resume highlighting community service experience and relevant research or coursework.
- A two page statement of purpose highlighting your interest in community and economic development.
- A copy of unofficial transcripts from all undergraduate institutions attended.
- Two letters of recommendation. Letters of recommendation may be emailed separately by the recommender.

Applicants must apply and be accepted to a graduate program at the University of Mississippi. Graduate students with at least two years remaining in their program are eligible to apply.