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**Position Description:**

**Graduate Research Assistant: Amplifying Community Voices**

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The "Amplifying Community Voices" Graduate Assistant will support the work of the Office of Civic and Community Engagement's on a Mellon Foundation-funded project, Miami as Ground Zero: Tracing the Magic City's Environmental History and Future. This project will address concerns over climate change, environmental sustainability, and community equity by grounding these issues in Miami's history, and producing an online Miami environmental history timeline, climate resilience exhibit, and course cluster in environmental humanities. The UGrow Fellow will help promote community-based digital storytelling to highlight the historical relationship between urban growth and environmental change. We will examine how past land use practices and community development policies have shaped present-day neighborhood vulnerability. By democratizing environmental data and collecting historical narratives, we will equip communities with tools to understand climate impacts and participate in creating inclusive solutions. This position covers the 2025-26 academic year, beginning in August 2025 and culminating at the end of the Spring 2026 semester, and is funded through the College of Arts and Science's UGrow Fellowship Program.

**Position Duties:**

- Conduct research on the shifting relationship between urban growth and environmental change in Miami-Dade County over the last century
- Collaborate with UM Richter Library and CCE team to develop interview protocols and questions specifically addressing residents' experiences with neighborhood changes, environmental impacts and housing affordability
- Create documentation materials including consent forms, demographic information sheets, and post-interview methodology templates that align with archival best practices
- Facilitate community programs centered on education and storytelling about urban resilience
- Work with community partners to identify 3-4 priority neighborhoods to host small group conversations, targeting areas most affected by environmental change
- Coordinate University resources, including faculty expertise and student researchers, to support the collection and professional documentation of oral histories
- Develop sustainable program frameworks that connect University resources with community organizations for ongoing collaboration.

**Desired Skills:**

- Interpersonal, research, and writing skills
  - Very strong communication skills: able to amicably and productively interact with a range of personalities around the campus and in the community in person, via email, etc.
  - Persistence in locating data and following up with appropriate people and departments
  - Strong background in archival research and writing
- Organizational skills
  - Able to manage a large amount of both qualitative and quantitative information and distill as necessary
  - Proficient managing multiple tasks and deadlines
  - Demonstrated project management and time management skills