

**Graduate Assistantship Announcement**

**Division of Student Affairs**

**Research Assistantship:** Graduate assistantship (Master’s or PhD level) will be available starting as early as **June 1, 2023** (dependent on student availability) to work with Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging (i3b) in the Division of Student Affairs at UMBC. With the support of the Director and Assistant Director overseeing the Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being, the Graduate Assistant will help design systems to improve processes and manage assessment for The Gathering Space, helping to design and deliver i3b-led programs centering interfaith dialogue and education, and provide supervision for up to 5 student interns.

Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging (i3b) helps faculty, staff, and students develop the knowledge, awareness, and skills to cultivate an inclusive and social justice-oriented campus community. Through three-identity-based centers: The Mosaic: Center for Cultural Diversity, The Pride Center, and The Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being, i3b affirms and celebrates the multiple, diverse, and intersecting identities of UMBC students and the wider campus community while working towards co-creating systemic, group and individual change rooted in radical love and belonging.

As one of the identity-based centers within i3b, The Gathering Space for Spiritual Well-Being serves as a spiritually-centered space where students and UMBC community members can gather at the intersection of religion, faith, spirituality, and other lived experiences. The Gathering Space prioritizes individual religious practice, opportunities to explore holistic well-being connected to religion and spirituality, and creating spaces to engage across difference, by centering the importance of interfaith work and dialogue. Within the Gathering Space, three core themes are emphasized: radical love & belonging, spiritual well-being, and energetic pluralism.

The duties of the assistantship will fall into the following areas:

* *Systems Design & Space Management*: The GA will design and implement varied systems to help manage usage and student engagement with The Gathering Space, which hosts 250+ visitors per week. These systems will guide space management by student and professional staff, centering equity.
* *Co-Management of Student Staff*: The GA will help manage the student intern team by providing direct supervision, lead weekly operations meetings, and facilitate trainings and practice opportunities for student staff to develop skills connected to interfaith dialogue, leadership development, customer service, and/or program facilitation.
* *Program Management & Assessment*: The GA will co-lead Gathering Space programs (based on personal interest) and assessment efforts within the center, including the design of pre- and post-assessment measures, data analysis, and outcome sharing with the Division of Student Affairs, the UMBC campus broadly, and community stakeholders. They will work with the broader i3b team, as time/interest allows.

**Potential Opportunities:**

* Inaugural role—helping to determine and define the scope of a GA position with this office
* Systems design and implementation
* Program management and assessment
* Opportunities for student supervision
* Improve facilitation skills
* Deepening abilities connected to working across multiple intersections of identities
* Developing capacity to engage with interfaith work and dialogue

**Candidate Qualifications:**

* Experience with interfaith dialogue and/or work with religious diversity; strong systems thinker, program planning and curriculum development skills are preferred
* Ability to navigate complex issues and competing priorities
* Some experience training students or staff in the areas of equity, inclusion, diversity­­, and social justice
* Proven commitment to supporting equity, inclusion, and diversity efforts within higher education
* Professional interest in working in higher education administration or spiritual/religious life is preferred
* Proficient in online communication mediums, including various forms of social media
* Preferred skills: detail-oriented; self-managed; reliable; creative problem solver; critical thinker

**Stipend:** The graduate assistantship comes with a competitive stipend and is designed for up to 20 hours weekly. For more information regarding assistantships visit https://gradschool.umbc.edu/funding/assistantships/

**Application:** Please send your cover letter, personal statement of career goals, CV, and three references using the contact information below.

**Matt Hoffman, MDiv, STM**

**Assistant Director, Initiatives for Identity, Inclusion & Belonging**

**Email: i3b@umbc.edu**

**Best Consideration Date: April 20**