

Rhode Island STEAM Center

Full-time Graduate Assistant (GA), 2019-2020

Submitted by Carol M. Giuriceo, cgiuriceo@ric.edu

The **Rhode Island STEAM Center** located at Rhode Island College serves as a central education hub and statewide resource focused on building partnerships, advocating for increased science, technology, engineering, arts + design, and mathematics (STEAM) literacy and promoting and implementing research-based practices. The Center provides opportunities for partnerships and collaboration among PK-12, higher education, after school programs, community-based organizations, non-profit groups, business and industry, and government agencies leading to the sharing and exchange of knowledge, ideas, and experience.

Duties and Responsibilities

Most of the STEAM Center GA's responsibilities will focus on three main initiatives:

1. **Million Women Mentors (MWM):** MWM is a national movement to attract and retain more women in STEM fields through high quality mentorships. The STEAM Center along with MentorRI is leading the Rhode Island Leadership Team. Governor Gina Raimondo serves as the Honorary Chair.
2. **Computer Science (CS):** The Center works with the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) and the Rhode Island Office of Innovation to implement and support CS4RI, a statewide CS education initiative.
3. **Rhode Island STEAM Now Coalition:** The Coalition is a broad alliance of 450+ individuals and organizations representing business, education, and government that the STEAM Center leads.

Key tasks include:

- Research and identify existing databases that list Rhode Island programs, internships, externships, mentoring opportunities, professional development, resources, grants, etc.
- Research ways to link and expand existing databases through asset mapping.
- Interface with MWM national office to coordinate Rhode Island's mentor pledge.
- Assist in the planning, coordination, and implementation of events in Rhode Island.
- Attend statewide STEM (STEAM)-related meetings.
- Develop and maintain a media presence.
- Assist in the planning, preparation, and implementation of related meetings.
- Other responsibilities as needed.

Contribution to Rhode Island STEAM Center

The addition of a GA to the Rhode Island STEAM Center provides valuable assistance which leads to the following:

- Extended program research efforts which creates more in-depth experiences for Rhode Island students;
- Additional social media presence which increases visibility for STEAM Center work;
- Maintenance of database which is essential for building relationships;
- Increased statewide partnerships which helps to coordinate efforts to increase STEAM literacy for all.

Contribution to Professional Development of Student

The GA will join an environment that combines academic learning with authentic experience in the area of STEAM education with emphasis on equity issues, mentorship, and statewide partnerships. Throughout the term of the assistantship, the GA will have to opportunity to hone skills in project management, database management, event planning, and community outreach – all focused on increasing STEAM literacy. Opportunities to participate in in-state and out-of-state conferences and workshops. In 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 the GA traveled to Washington DC to represent Rhode Island at the national Million Women Mentors Annual Summit. In 2018-2019, the GA participated in the development process for the recently endorsed RI Computer Science Education Standards.

Qualifications

- Accepted degree candidate enrolled full time in plan of study (min. 6 credits; max. 9 credits);
- **STEM degree not necessary!**
- Ability to work independently and as part of a team – being a self-starter a plus;
- Strong organizational skills & ability to balance demands of multi-faceted and varied job responsibilities;
- Comfortable interacting with various stakeholders including K-12 educators, higher education faculty, business/industry professionals, after school program providers, community groups, & government officials;
- Strong written and verbal skills.

How to Apply

Please send an application, resume, and letter of interest to Carol M. Giuriceo at cgiuriceo@ric.edu