With the support of a UNF Transformational Learning Opportunity Grant, the Archaeology and Physical Anthropology laboratories of the University of North Florida are pleased to announce the availability of funded student fellowships for the Spring 2009 semester.

Student fellows will engage in a combination of service-learning and research activities in the UNF Archaeology and Anthropology laboratories during the tenure of their fellowship. Each student fellow will be required to provide 10 hours of service-learning activity per week for 15 weeks. Additionally, fellows will be expected to complete an independently developed research project. The number of hours each student will expend on their project will be variable, but is not expected to be less than 5 hours per week (above and beyond their 10 hours of service activities).

**Funding & Support**
Each student will be paid $10.00 per hour for 10 hours of service work each week for fifteen weeks. This salary will compensate them for service-work they provide and offset financial hardship due to lost wages or costs associated with their service obligations. Additionally, each student will have access to a maximum of $250 in research stipend to support the costs of conducting their own original research as specifically budgeted in their fellowship application.

**Eligibility**
To be eligible for a fellowship, an individual must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate student and in good academic standing at the University. Students from all majors and at any academic year are eligible for a fellowship. Students awarded a fellowship must be enrolled full-time (minimum of 12 hours) in classes during the semester of their fellowship.

**Service-Learning Activities**
Students selected as fellows will spend a portion of their time engaged in service-learning activities. These activities will involve the students applying knowledge and skills developed in regular classes to the needs of the greater University and Jacksonville community. For example, student’s service-learning projects might include:

- Collecting life-history accounts from residents of assisted living facilities in the northeast Florida region
- Providing assistance to medical Anthropologists with the Duval County Department of Health
- Cataloging and organizing artifacts excavated from local archaeological sites
- Conducting literature searches and gathering primary source materials for use by students in laboratory activities
- Observing and filming primate behavior at the Jacksonville Zoo
- Developing Geographic Information Systems maps of archaeological sites in Duval county
Fellow Research Projects
Student fellows will also complete a research project of their own design to be completed during the period of their fellowship with the mentorship of a faculty member. As noted above, a stipend to support these research endeavors will be available. As part of their application for the fellowship, each student will propose an independent research project that will be supervised by a UNF faculty member. This project will often (though not necessarily) involve the student outlining a relevant research question and protocol, collecting appropriate qualitative or quantitative data, analyzing that data, and completing a final write-up of their research. Students will be encouraged to propose projects that will integrate their research with their anticipated service activities. As part of the terms of the fellowship, students will be required to submit a report of their research project to their supervising faculty member and the Anthropology Laboratory.

Purpose of the Fellowships
Currently most students in the Anthropology program find it necessary to find part-time or full-time employment to support and continue their educational goals. This is true of many UNF students. However, employment outside of UNF significantly hampers our students' ability to engage in service and research opportunities within their chosen field of study. Given the service and hands-on nature of much of Anthropology, this commitment of time and energy outside of educational endeavors impacts Anthropology students drastically. The purpose of the Anthropology Student Fellowships is to allow more students to engage in these transformational learning opportunities.

Expected Student Outcomes
It is expected (and research suggests) that the fellowship activities, including service-learning and research projects, will produce the following student outcomes:

- Improved academic performance
- Refined critical thinking and writing skills
- Increased perception of the value of activism
- Greater awareness and understanding of community issues
- Improved self-awareness and interpersonal skills
- Better self-motivation and organization
- Enhanced ability to apply academically acquired knowledge to community problems

Student outcomes will be assessed through their overall performance in service tasks and individual research projects. Student will be required to develop a portfolio of their service-learning work that will be assessed by the mentoring faculty. Additionally, each student’s final research report (or presentation or grant proposal) will be evaluated by the faculty. Finally, each student will undergo an entrance and exit interview with their faculty supervisor in order to establish specific outcome objectives for the student and to assess their progress towards those goals.
Application Materials
A complete fellowship application will include the following:

1. a completed application form outlining their academic history and performance and their financial need, and
2. a proposal and budget for their independent research project, and
3. a letter detailing their intentions for their post-UNF career, and
4. a copy of the applicants academic transcript.

Applications are due November 17th, 2008. Applications should be submitted to:

Prof. Gordon F.M. Rakita
(grakita@unf.edu)

Anthropology Program
Department of Sociology & Anthropology
Building 51, Room 2304
College of Arts & Sciences
University of North Florida
Jacksonville, FL 32224

It is strongly suggested that students wishing to apply for a fellowship consult with Prof. Rakita prior to submitting their application.

Fellow Selection Process
Student fellows will be selected through a competitive application process. Each student’s application package will be assessed by the Anthropology Laboratory faculty, in consultation with other Anthropology or mentoring faculty. If no suitable applicants are identified in a given semester, the funding will be held over until the subsequent semester. The selection of the Anthropology Laboratory Fellows will be made on the basis of the following criteria:

• Past student performance in coursework and other academic and service endeavors;
• The prospect for significant research contribution in the form of a paper, presentation, or grant proposal;
• The financial need of the student and support of under-represented groups at both in the Anthropology discipline and at UNF;
• The potential of the student to improve their expertise and abilities as well as make significant contributions to the community through service-learning activities;
• The relevance of acquired skills and knowledge acquired through research and service to the student’s post-UNF career.