

Florida International University - FIU

Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies (GSS) & Kimberly Green Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC)

Opportunity for GSS and/or LACC graduate students:

Call for expressions of interest, participation in the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services – IPBES/ United Nations

Dear GSS and LACC students:

This is to invite you to consider submitting your interest in participating, as a Student Research Assistant and Contributing Author, in an effort linked to the IPBES/ Values Assessment - **Methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.**

What is IPBES?

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is the **intergovernmental body which assesses the state of biodiversity and of the ecosystem services it provides to society, in response to requests from decision makers.**

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is an independent intergovernmental body established by States to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development. It was established in Panama City, on 21 April 2012 by 94 Governments. It is not a United Nations body. However, at the request of the IPBES Plenary and with the authorization of the UNEP Governing Council in 2013, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) provides secretariat services to IPBES. Currently, 133 countries participate in this initiative.

Website for more information: <https://ipbes.net/>

What is the position?

The student will be a **volunteer GSS/LACC** Research Assistant for the Fall / 2020 semester, and, depending on interest and availability, possibly continuing through the Spring / 2021 semester. It is important to clarify that **this is a non-paid/ volunteer position.**

What is the work?

You will be working closely to GSS/LACC new Faculty member and Associate Professor Dr. Simone Athayde, on a **literature review effort focused on the important topic of Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK)** connected to Chapter 2 of the Values Assessment, providing evidence to support critical Key Messages that will be incorporated in the chapter, and that could also become part of the critical key messages to be featured in the Summary for Policy-Makers, which will be presented to leaders of 133 countries during the United Nations plenary in 2022.

The student(s) will work remotely and assist with coding academic papers, grey literature, policy documents, as well as materials produced by Indigenous scholars and/or communities. This would take 5-10 hours/week maximum. There would be a concentrated effort in September, with “waves” of work around IPBES deadlines and deliverables. The student will also participate in regular meetings with the Chapter Authors and personnel from the Technical Support Unit (TSU).

What are the benefits for the student?

There are several non-monetary benefits of this work, listed below:

- Opportunity to learn – perhaps this is one of the most important benefits – learn from Indigenous and local scholars, faculty, researchers and other students participating in this initiative.
- Opportunity to be part of a global effort and to contribute to incorporate Indigenous and local voices and concepts in the Values Assessment;
- Innumerable networking opportunities with high profile scientists, Indigenous leaders and communities, as well as young scholars from all over the world.
- Opportunity to be listed as a Contributing Author in Chapter 2 of the Assessment, which adds a great line to your CV.
- Future opportunities may emerge, to be linked to future assessments and or scientific articles to be developed from these efforts.

If you are interested and available to carry out this work starting immediately, please complete the Google form by clicking on the link below with your Expression of Interest. One or two candidates will be selected for this position. Also, do not hesitate to contact me for additional information in the email listed below.

<https://forms.gle/L7YLYyc9tXkyTRs5>

Many thanks,

Dr. Simone Athayde

Associate Professor

GSS/ LACC/ FIU

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