CSSR Undergraduate Research Opportunity

The Center for Student Success Research (CSSR) is looking for two undergraduate students to serve as research interns to our disability in higher education focus area during the spring 2017 semester. The students will have the ability to work on a research project that helps to illuminate how undergraduate students with disabilities experience the climate within higher education. The specific project proposed looks how students navigate the financial expenses associated with having a disability within higher education. This work will be used to help make higher education more accessible to students with disabilities.

Members of the project will attend a weekly meeting with the Primary Investigator of the research project as well as semi-regular meetings of the Disability in Higher Education research team. Other time may be spent reviewing relevant literature, gathering data, engaging with study participants, writing results, and other additional research activities.

The internship will provide a number of opportunities, including:
- Exposure to faculty working within Higher Education program and the field of Higher Education and Student Affairs
- Individual mentorship around the research process
- Opportunities to write for scientific publications or present at local conferences
- Students can use the opportunity to fill an internship requirement, as an independent study (up to 2 credits), or as a primary component of a capstone class.
- Involvement in projects may possibly roll over into future semesters for interested parties

Qualifications:
- Responsible and hard-working junior or senior
- Strong communication and organization skills
- Self-motivated and able to work independently
- Willing to commit between 3-6 hours per week during the spring 2017 semester
- Desire to learn about and conduct qualitative research, including activities such as conducting observations, leading interviews, and analyzing transcripts
- Prior studies or experience related to disability in higher education is helpful, but not required
- No prior research experience necessary

To apply, please email Genie Bettencourt at success@umass.edu with the following information by **Wednesday, November 30, 2016 at 5pm**:
- A resume
- A cover letter describing your interest in the project
- Contact information for two professional references

Selected applicants will be invited to participate in an interview the week of December 5th, 2016.